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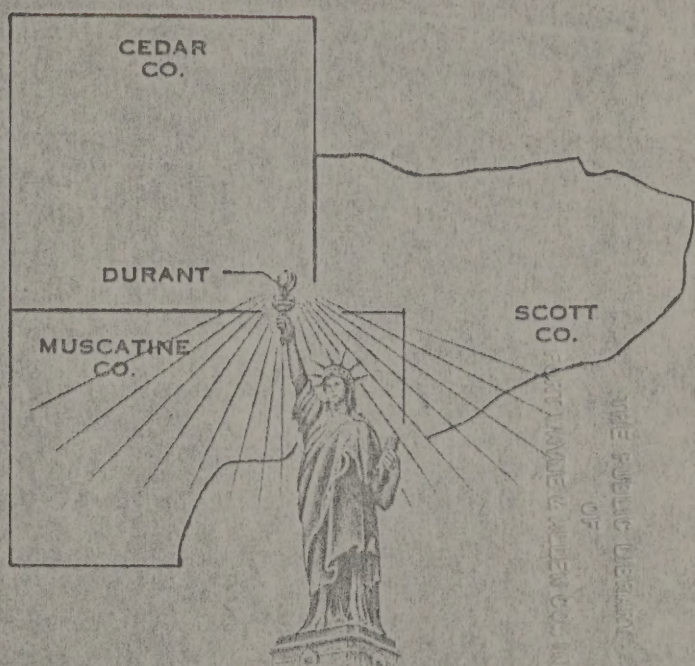

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AERIAL VIEW OF DURANT

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Dedication

This book is dedicated to all people who have lived in this small Midwest Iowa town and to its children of today who will be the citizens of tomorrow and our hope for the future. We believe that a child growing up in such ideal surroundings receives a special start in life and a greater understanding of what true Americanism means.

We regret that only a limited amount of the material collected and reviewed could be incorporated into this history, but lack of space prevented the use of a great deal of information that was both interesting and significant. The omission of any name or event or date of importance to you was not intentional we assure you.

We express our sincere thanks to our advertisers and friends who helped finance this undertaking and to all committee members and to every one who helped make the Durant Centennial a success.

The Durant Centennial Committee
RAYMOND H. CHRISTENSEN
General Chairman

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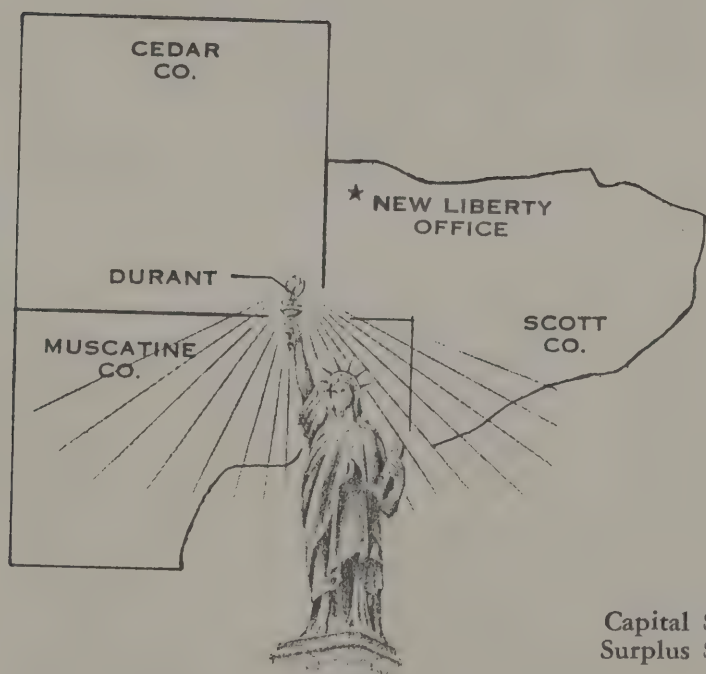

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HISTORY OF DURANT
Cedar County, Iowa

"Because I live in the present and believe in the future,
I must know the story of the past."
CYRENUS COLE

History? What is history? Noah Webster defines it as "a systematic account of events as distinguished from a romance; a description." This, then is the history of the birth and development of a little town we know and love — the town we can't forget — Durant, Iowa, U. S. A. Our town has had a quiet history, however, for no battles were fought here nor has any earth-shaking event taken place here. But through the years, it has stood out on the prairie where one comes upon it somewhat unexpectedly, and it has faced whatever came to it with a calm strength and peace.

The wheels of time have rolled on to the notch 1954 and our citizens pause to look back upon the courage, foresight, ideals and endeavors of our founding fathers and those capable ones who followed and to review the forces that have created this town.

First, let us recall that after the Louisiana Purchase by the United States in 1803, Iowa was wholly and solely reserved for the Indians and that until 1833, Iowa was transferred from one territorial jurisdiction to another. It was government policy not to open the lands to settlers, but to hold them as hunting grounds for Indian tribes which had been forced out of lands east of the Mississippi River. It is a known fact that Chief Poweshiek camped in these parts in 1836 and in 1837, and that braves of his Sac and Fox tribes roamed over the entire county in their hunting expeditions. Thus, except for a few fur traders and half-breeds, there were none but Indians in these borders.

The first territorial jurisdiction of importance was that of June 1834 when congress extended the territory of Michigan to include Wisconsin and Iowa. A short time later what is now Iowa was divided into two counties, the southern half was designated Des Moines County and the northern half was termed Dubuque County. In 1835 the Territory of Wisconsin was created and we became part of it and remained so until July 4, 1838 when the Territory of Iowa was established with Robert Lucas as Governor.

The first settler in this vicinity, which later became Durant, was David W. Walton, familiarly known as Colonel, from his having been appointed to the command of a regiment in the territorial militia. He was a native of New Jersey who emigrated to Indiana. Having heard of the richness and fertility of the land of the Blackhawk Purchase, he determined to find out the truth of these statements by personal examination. Accordingly, in the summer of 1835, he and his son, George, made an exploring trip to Iowa, and, after

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having traveled over and examined a great portion of what afterward became Cedar County, he chose a location near a small stream which he named Sugar Creek because of the fine growth of sugar maples on its banks. Timber and water supply were the first concern of the pioneer. Here, on this location, they spent the summer during which time they staked out two claims on the south half of Section Fifteen, Township Seventy-nine, Range Two in Cedar County, erected a log cabin and started making improvements. Recall that at this time there were no roads of any kind to guide them. A pocket compass, the North Star and the wind or the course of a stream were their only guides. The prairies had scarcely, if ever, been disturbed by the feet of the invading white man. The immigrants came by wagon, on foot or on horseback.

Walton and son George returned to Indiana late in the fall. The following April, the Colonel with his family, consisting of his wife, five sons and two daughters, returned to Iowa amply provided with all the essentials for frontier life, including a breaking team of four yoke of fine looking, strong and heavy oxen, a plow, wagons and horses. This plow and an ox yoke are still preserved and are in the possession of a great grandson, Lon Walton. Colonel Walton and party crossed the Mississippi at Davenport on May 1, 1836 and arrived at the log cabin he had constructed the previous year and commenced their permanent settlement on May 10, 1836; thus entitling him to the honor of being the first settler in Cedar County, and to his wife goes the honor of being the first white woman to prepare a meal in a house in this County. A year or so later one of his daughters became the first bride in the County. Mrs. Walton never tired of telling that when they arrived on that beautiful May morning, flowers were blooming everywhere, the birds were singing a welcome song, and the whole family agreed they had come to paradise. This home was several miles west of what later became Durant. Colonel Walton, tall, dark and handsome, was a fine specimen of a hardy pioneer. He was honest and straightforward, an unerring rifle shot, and it is said that once, single handed, he killed a pack of wolves on the spot where the Wilton Methodist Church now stands. At the time he arrived in Iowa, he was forty-seven years of age. He died of cholera in 1850 at the age of sixty-one.

Surveys of the land were not started until 1836 when the first legal land sales were held in the county seats at Dubuque and Burlington in the newly created Iowa Territory.

No other settlers came to this vicinity until 1838 when Harrison Gray and George, Paul and John Hanson and their father arrived and settled just over the boundary line in Muscatine County. The Peter Daum family came in 1844 and settled one mile west of here. In October, 1852 the Matthew Brown family arrived from New York State, and they brought with them several workmen and their families to construct their new home which was just south of town where Louie Sebelien now resides. That same month James Young and family and the J. H. Pingrey family arrived. Mr. Pingrey purchased one thousand acres of land in Muscatine County.

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Mr. Brown was a man of education and strong principles, and with his wife, four daughters and one son, took an active part in the community development. The son, Benton W. Brown, was station agent in Durant for thirty years. A grandson, Mr. A. B. Nelson, of Durant, survives and has taken an active interest in civic, religious, and educational activities throughout his lifetime.

So rapidly had the population of the Iowa Territory increased, that in 1846 she was admitted to statehood, but the stage coach, the steamboat and the faithful ox teams and horses were the only means of transportation. Railroads from the east were pushing westward, carrying to isolated settlements many of the comforts of a less strenuous life. In 1854 the railroad reached the Mississippi River, and the river was spanned by a railroad bridge the same year. Iowa's first railroad, the Mississippi and Missouri, or the M & M as it was popularly known, was in effect, an extension of the Rock Island Road in Illinois and was scheduled to become a part of that system.

In the spring of 1853 Peter A. Day and Grenville M. Dodge, later a famed Civil War general, were told to commence proposed railroad surveys in Iowa from the bridge to Iowa City. That summer Mr. Hiram Price, one of the organizers of the M & M, set out to interest people in the advantages of a railroad and sell stock and persuade towns and counties to issue bonds. However, to his surprise and disgust, he found that Iowans were not generally eager to see the coming of the railroad and they refused to believe that a railroad could raise the price of their produce. About this time Council Bluff's residents stated that they "did not think a railroad of much consequence, but rather was an interference with the Divine plan, and, therefore, not to be encouraged because when the Supreme Architect finished the world, he pronounced it good without a railroad."

But the railroad did come to Iowa. In 1853 the M & M company surveyed across the Matthew Brown farm, and the surveyors used the Brown home as headquarters. Likewise, the following year, when the road was under construction, several of the men in charge boarded at the Browns. Railroad construction workers were paid the unheard of wages of $1.50 per day.

In 1854 Benjamin B. Brayton, a civil engineer in the employ of the Rock Island Railroad, came here to negotiate railroad business. The orginal plan had been to build the road across the northern part of Muscatine County, but Brayton and his friends, John Adams Dix and Thomas C. Durant of Union Pacific fame, owned land just over the boundary line in Cedar County and changed the course of the railroad to go through their holdings.

That same year 1854, a town was laid out and platted by Brayton. However, a short time later Mr. Durant announced that he would give the sum of $800.00 for the erection of a school house and Brayton changed the name of the new town to Durant in honor of his esteemed friend. One of their first concerns was for the town water supply, and the village well was sunk in June, 1854 on the site of the Pioneer Seed Corn Office. Brayton, Dix and Durant

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owned a large portion of the town until 1877 when their last interests were sold.

The town of Durant is located twenty miles west of Davenport in the southeast corner of Cedar County. The Muscatine County line is the south boundary line of the town and the Scott County line forms the eastern boundary. The elevation of the town is seven hundred twenty feet. Durant is on the main line of the Rock Island east and west and on U. S. Highway No. 6. It is in the heart of the corn belt and in the midst of a prosperous community where farming is now done by the most modern of mechanized methods. Here every one looks to the soil for a livelihood.

On the first town survey half squares were set aside in the north part of town for a schoolhouse and an Episcopal Church, as all three of the town founders embraced that faith, and two large public squares were set aside for park purposes; one in the east part of town and one in the west part. The latter square has always been known as West Park and has been the scene of many, many happy occasions such as dances, picnics, homecomings and all types of community activities. In 1867 the park was planted with maples and elms and these have supplied shade and beauty to old and young for nearly ninety years.

Durant was first recorded as a town June 27, 1855. The first settlers were from New Haven, Connecticut, but by the time the railroad was completed, they were coming in from other New England States and New York and Pennsylvania. Mr. Joseph Weaver, a Princeton graduate and attorney from Pittsburgh, had arrived in 1854 and farmed north of Durant for forty years. He married Catherine Brown, daughter of Matthew Brown.

The first building in town was erected by James Young, a young carpenter, in August, 1855 on the corner where the Wm. Trede building now stands. A short time later, a hotel and a depot were built. The depot, on the site of the present depot, was the first building erected expressly for that purpose in the State of Iowa. It was a large building and did service both as a station and as a church for several years. But because it proved too large for this place, it was moved to Muscatine where it served as a depot for many years. The hotel still stands and has since been remodeled into the Matheny apartments. The hotel was built by Cook and Sargeant of Davenport and was a stop on the old stage coach route. A large livery stable stood just south of the hotel. The hotel was leased to H. S. Downs of Boston, Massachusetts, who also was the first station agent and owner of the first store. In the spring of 1856 Mr. Allen Nesbitt bought the hotel and operated it until his death in 1874. In 1856 Mr. Downs built a fine home which is now known as the Dutton residence. After residing there for several years, Mr. Downs sold the home to the Episcopal Church for use as a rectory.

The Mississippi and Missouri Railroad was completed as far as Wilton on September 19, 1855, and October 1st of that year saw the coming of the first

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hated and feared locomotive crossing Iowa prairies. What excitement! Many were the dire predictions heard about this terrible steam monster!

Iowa City was most desirous of having the railroad extended to their city and offered a bonus of $50,000.00 provided a train of cars drawn by a steam locomotive would arrive at the depot in Iowa City on or before December 31, 1855. All eastern Iowa was agog over whether or not they would complete the railroad in time to claim the bonus and rejoiced with railroad officials and workmen and citizens of Iowa City when the goal was reached just as the church bells rang in the New Year of 1856.

The M & M was purchased by the Rock Island in 1866 but the railroad across Iowa was not completed until 1869 when it was extended as far as Council Bluffs.

Joseph Weaver had the honor of making the first rail shipment from Durant when he shipped six hundred bushels of wheat to Davenport on a construction car and was paid One Dollar per bushel for same. A short time later six barrels of game were shipped on a freight car. It was said that wild turkeys were so plentiful at that time that as many as a hundred birds were shot in one day.

The first religious service conducted by a clergyman was held in the depot in March, 1856. This service was conducted by Episcopal Bishop Henry W. Lee who delivered his sermon from a hastily constructed pulpit consisting of two boxes, the upper one having been a case of champagne. The Bishop organized the group as St. Paul's Episcopal Church at the request of several in attendance who had long been members of St. Paul's in New Haven, Connecticut. The following year saw the completion of a church building in the north part of town where the Joe McCoy tool shed now stands. For several years following the Civil War the Episcopal Rector and his wife and mother-in-law conducted a private school for girls in the church rectory and enrolled a number of out of town as well as local girls. The essentials of high school education were taught as well as some of the fine arts. The rector's wife was an excellent musician and gave piano instruction. In 1880 an Episcopal Co-educational high school was built on the corner now occupied by the Wm. Bockwoldt home. This was in existence for several years under the direction of Rev. Stroh.

Within a few years several other congregations were formed. The Methodist Church was built where the Wm. Johansen house stands, and the Christian Church in south Durant stood where the George Bierkamp home is located. These buildings were sold as the congregations dwindled and were remodeled into residences. A Congregational Church flourished for several years, but after membership decreased, it was sold in 1896 to the Episcopal Church where services are still being held. The Rev. W. R. Bagby is the present Vicar. St. Martha's Guild is a group of very active church women organized to assist in all church projects. Mrs. Elmer Langmann is the 1954 president.

On June 30, 1856 the Durant School District became a reality, and during 1857 a school was conducted by Lafayette Parker in one room in the hotel.

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He was paid the magnificent salary of Three Dollars per month. A schoolhouse was built in the spring of 1858 on a half block of land donated by Cook and Sargeant. The twenty-six by thirty foot building cost $800.00 which had been previously donated by Mr. Durant, and was located on the present schoolhouse site. It served the community until 1869 when a new building was erected. A third building was constructed in 1904 and this building together with the gymnasium which was added in 1938 and the agriculture, shop and hot lunch annex which was added in 1951 still serve the youth of the community.

The first birth recorded in the town was that of the daughter born to Mr. and Mrs. Isaac N. Gilbert in December, 1857. She was named Mary Durant, and received, according to promise, from the founders of the town, a warranty deed to the lot north of the Turner Hall where the Herman Voss house is now located. The Gilbert family returned to New York State years ago.

The first physician of the community was Dr. Erastus B. Bills of Connecticut who came in 1855. He was a Yale graduate and served the community faithfully and well until his death in 1902. In addition to his duties as a doctor, he also served as postmaster for a period, was an active vestryman in St. Paul's Episcopal Church, was a Justice of the Peace and represented Cedar County in the State Legislature for a time. His office occupied the corner where the Trede Electric Company now stands and his residence was located on the corner now occupied by the Dr. J. E. Christiansen home. The fine old elm tree at the corner of the Henry Glaser residence was set out by Dr. Bills and still stands as a living memorial to him.

For the next ten years Durant continued to grow as glowing tales of the opportunities in Iowa were circulated. It has been said that Cedar County, formed late in 1836, was about thirty years in settling, yet by 1854, it is safe to say that very little virgin prairie land was left in the hands of the government. During the late fifties young German immigrants began to come to the community. Some had been exiled by the Schleswig-Holstein War, but all found the freedom and opportunity they sought and remained here. They were honest, industrious and thrifty, and made the most desirable type of citizens. Later they bought farms on borrowed capital from eastern bankers at the exorbitant rate of two and one-half to three per cent interest. Today the grandchildren and great-grandchildren of these sturdy immigrants carry on in the best tradition.

While Durant was recorded as a town in 1855, it was not incorporated until July 5, 1867. Mr. Allen Nesbitt was the first elected mayor and served until his untimely death in 1874. The story goes that one night the Orcutt and Loomis store was discovered on fire, and Mr. Nesbitt, who was head of the volunteer fire department, had just entered the burning building when a barrel of gun powder exploded causing injuries from which he died a few weeks later.

Thus did Durant begin. From the virgin Iowa prairies, a town began to grow. Men and women of the finest type came from the east and from lands

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across the water and settled here, built homes, established business enterprises, broke the prairie and worked the rich black soil and did their part to make a great America.

Durant has not been unscathed by war. Young men from Durant have fought in all the major wars beginning with Jacob Weaver, a Revolutionary War soldier, and even today a number of our fine young men serve in the armed forces both at home and overseas. One of the outstanding service men is Colonel Victor Byrnes, Assistant Surgeon of the Air Force in Europe, who is a widely recognized eye specialist. Several of our young women too have served in various capacities during World War II and the Korean Conflict, and one of the most noteworthy of these is Captain Bernice Sebelien now serving in the Army Nurse Corps.

It is known that the Abolitionist John Brown had sympathizers in these parts in the late fifties prior to the Civil War, and that Cedar County served as the rallying point for Brown and his followers, and that quantities of arms and ammunition were shipped from nearby West Liberty. Undoubtedly these supplies as well as Brown and his men passed through Durant.

In April 1880, the Durant Volunteer Fire Department was organized, and since that time they have been commended for their speed and efficiency in fighting fires and have kept local fire losses to a minimum. Their first equipment was a hose cart. A few years later they added a hook and ladder wagon. In 1919 they purchased a fire truck with three chemical tanks, and some time later purchased another truck. The new truck was then designated as the town truck and the chemical truck was reserved for the surrounding rural districts. In 1950 a completely modern truck was purchased, and it is the last word in fire fighting equipment. The present Fire Chief is Raymond Christensen.

Durant has always been noted for its well kept homes surrounded by lovely lawns and gardens and for its fine parks. The two larger parks are located in the east and west parts of town and the Pythian Park is located along main street on railroad property. For years this space was the stockyards and later the village dumping ground, and was a dreadful eyesore to our fastidious townspeople. In 1914 the Rock Island Railroad gave a ninety-nine year lease to the local Pythian Sisters, and they have converted it into a beauty spot of renown, and they supervise and pay for its upkeep.

East Park was renamed in 1938 and became officially known as the Samuel A. Dutton Memorial Park in memory of S. A. Dutton, a Civil War veteran and a colorful character. He loved to work with the children and young people of the community and was active in Sunday School work for more than fifty years. He came to Durant in 1866 from Connecticut and farmed just north of town and took an active part in religious, patriotic and political events until his death in December, 1928. Also he was a lover of nature and donated and set out many of the rare and beautiful trees in Dutton Park just east of his residence.

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Unique in the town's institutions is the building known as the Chapel. It was built in 1915 with funds raised by a group of earnest women organized as the Ladies Aid Society. They solicited funds to the amount of $498.30 and started construction, and this energetic group of women raised more than $3000.00 to pay off the indebtedness and make improvements from time to time. Through the years this building has housed the Union Sunday School, provided a meeting place for Presbyterians and Lutherans and has been the scene of many happy events as well as countless funerals. This organization is still most active and Mrs. B. C. Denkmann is now the president.

The Lutheran Church was organized in Durant in June, 1938 in the Chapel, and they have held services there ever since that date. They sponsor an organization for the young people of the church which is called the Luther League, and the women of the church are active in the Lutheran Circle. An annual event is the Mother-Daughter Banquet served by the ladies of the Lutheran Circle. Rev. C. O. Carlson was the first pastor. Rev. Leighland Johnson is the present pastor, and the church membership is steadily increasing.

Our town has had and still has a number of fine organizations which have meant a great deal to the civic and social life of the community. Turngemeinde was begun in 1874 and gave excellent instruction in athletics, fencing, turning and tumbling. Frank Haller was First Speaker and Martin Beuthien was Secretary. Later the Damen Auxiliary to the Turngemeinde was organized and flourished until 1936 when it was discontinued. Mrs. Christ Sorgenfrey was the first president and Mrs. Dorette Samberg was seceretary. Kranken Unterstutzung Verein was organized in 1890 and was a charitable organization as the name indicates but was discontinued a number of years ago.

A Modern Woodmen Camp existed for some time but is no longer in existence. Henrietta Camp No. 4617 Royal Neighbors of America, auxiliary to Modern Woodmen, was organized in November, 1906, and is still active. Mrs. Emma Denkmann was the first Oracle and the present Oracle is Mrs. Ferd Moeller.

Knights of Pythias Lodge No. 265 was organized in May, 1902 with Mr. Ernst Diedrich as Chancellor Commander. The present membership is one hundred twenty-three and Ralph Erps is Chancellor Commander. Durant Temple No. 178 Pythian Sisters was organized in August, 1904 by Mrs. Ernst Diedrich with Mrs. Frances Johnson as Most Excellent Chief. The present membership is eighty-six sisters and nine knights. Mrs. Mate Bierkamp and Miss Claudia Boldt are the only remaining charter members of the group. The temple supports many community activities, but their special project is the upkeep of Pythian Park. Mrs. A. J. Mumm and Mrs. Lou Stark Garris have brought fame to Durant Temple by virtue of their having served as Grand Chiefs of Iowa and California respectively. Mrs. Joe McCoy is the Most Excellent Chief for 1954, their golden anniversary year.

In 1920 the J. L. Shryer Post of the American Legion was organized with Dr. T. D. Jacobs as Commander. It was named for Lt. J. L. Shryer, Medical

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Officer, who died in 1918 while serving in France. They are an organization that has meant much to the community, and they own their Legion Home. They sponsor the Boy Scout and Cub Scout Troops. Today the membership is one hundred fifteen and Dave Beiler is the Commander. Also in 1920 Mrs. Dorette Samberg organized and was the first president of the American Legion Auxiliary. They support community activities and do a great amount of work for hospitalized veterans and their families. Mrs. Ray Larson is now president and the unit has sixty-two members.

The Durant Community Club has been active since 1922 when it was organized by Mr. D. C. Wunder and Mr. H. A. Miller. Its purpose is to promote the best interests in Durant and vicinity. One of their present annual events is the well attended Father-Son Banquet which is held in the Chapel and is served by the famous cooks of the Ladies Aid. For the past several years they have sponsored the Summer Recreation Program for the children of the community. Dr. W. B. Weeber is the president for 1954.

In 1923 the Durant Woman's Club was organized and Mrs. A. F. Schiele was elected president in 1924 when it affiliated with the General Federation. This group has ever shown a most active interest in civic and cultural affairs of the town. They sponsor the Brownie and Girl Scout Troops. In 1932 they presented a splendid George Washington bi-centennial pageant and are in charge of the 1954 centennial pageant depicting the high points in Durant's first one hundred years. This pageant was written and directed by Mr. Rod Vahl of the Durant High School faculty. Mrs. Harlan Finck is pageant chairman and Mrs. Leo Rosenberger is president of the club.

The Red Cross Chapter has met every emergency call which has come to it since World War I days. Mrs. A. B. Nelson headed this organization for thirty years during which time Durant ladies have diligently sewed, knitted or rolled bandages as the need arose. During World War II Dr. J. E. Christiansen conducted First Aid Classes. Alma Hartz Iker, R.N. gave Red Cross Home Nursing instruction, and a group of ladies made surgical dressings under the able supervision of Mrs. Harry Horn and Mrs. Waldo Horn. For the past several years the chapter has provided Red Cross Swimming instruction to the children of the community. Dr. James M. Hood is now the chapter chairman.

The Durant Garden Club is a worthwhile organization studying and encouraging all phases of flower gardening. Their annual flower show is a delightful social event. The club was organized in 1939 with Mrs. Alice Schiele as its first president. Mrs. B. C. Denkmann is the 1954 president.

The Parent Teacher Association has a large membership that is active in promoting the general welfare of the children of the community and cooperation between parents and the school. Mrs. LeRoy Frick was the first president and Mrs. Bernice Schnede is the 1954-55 president.

Public utilities in Durant are highly satisfactory, and the town is well serviced by the Municipal Light Plant which was built in 1942 on the site of the old town hall erected in 1891. Today the plant has four generators in

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operation. In 1953 mercury vapor street lights were installed, a far cry from the old kerosene street lights of long ago when Mr. Engel walked from lamp-post to lamp-post carrying his ladder and pausing to mount the ladder and light each lamp with a match. The following morning he reversed his procedure, filled each lamp and carefully cleaned the chimney. Gas mains were laid in 1898 and street lights were modernized. In 1914 the Iowa Electric Company began service and furnished power to the town until 1942, when citizens voted municipal service. Robert Riggle is Superintendent at the Municipal Light Plant. The R. E. A. furnishes power to most of the rural homes in a wide territory surrounding the town. Our telephone service is furnished by the United Telephone Company.

In 1905 Julius Lage created a sensation as he drove down the streets in the town's first automobile — a Stanley Steamer! Dame Fortune had again smiled on Durant as we were now on the White Pole Road, later named the River to River Road across the state. The Iowa law of 1904 had provided that if a car approached a horse and buggy on the road, the car must stop if the driver in the buggy held up his hand. The motorist also was required to give assistance to the other driver. This meant getting out and leading the horse past the car. Sometimes the motorist would pass a horse only to be embarrassed later by having the horse pass him as he patched a tube or inflated a tire with a hand pump. Then the old-timer in the buggy would smugly call out "Get a horse!"

In 1928 a huge celebration was stated in observance of the completion of the paving. Durant residents rejoiced that "At last we are on pavement from New York to Hell's corner" meaning the pavement extended to the corner of the George Hell property. Several well known celebrities were on hand and the Honorable Robert G. Cousins of Tipton gave the address of the day. The festivities were climaxed with a dance at night on the new pavement.

Citizens of Durant are justly proud of the public school. The 1953-54 enrollment was 379. The school consists of kindergarden, eight grades and four years of high school. There are nine grade teachers and ten on the high school faculty. The high school offers a wide choice of subjects, having been a four year course since 1908 and accredited since 1923. E. J. Hannum is the present Superintendent, and Charles Rahn is high school Principal.

The city administration is in the capable hands of Henry Lamp, Mayor; Roy Lammers, George Hass, Wm. Erps, Elmer Langmann and Billy D. Paulsen who comprise the Town Council. Henry C. Schafer is City Clerk.

Durant's first bank, the Durant Savings Bank, was organized and opened in the year 1889. The members of the first board of directors were H. H. Sindt, Lorenz Miller, C. L. Schiele, Frank Haller, Wm. Wulf, Henry Gruemmer, H. Trede, William Bierkamp and M. Beuthien. During its period of existence it had but six presidents and five cashiers. The first president was M. Beuthien, who was followed by Wm. Bierkamp, Sr., Wm. Bierkamp, Jr., O. W. Schiele and Louis Trede. The five cashiers were D. H. Snoke, F. C. Langfeldt, A. H.

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Durant, Iowa

LEESE HATCHERY

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Flock Culling
Poultry Service

We Buy Poultry and Eggs
We Sell Dressed Poultry
and Fresh Eggs
Nutrena Feeds and
Davis Paints

Durant, Iowa

Alvin "Doc" Leese, Proprietor

Bierkamp, W. E. Bierkamp and B. C. Denkmann. It was in continuous operation until the Bank Holiday in March, 1933 and shortly thereafter went into liquidation.

In 1903 the Farmers and Merchants Savings Bank was opened for business and remained in operation until 1931 when it went into liquidation.

During the latter part of the year 1933 the town was without banking facilities until an office was opened by the Bennett State Bank and operated until July, 1935, when the Liberty Trust & Savings Bank was granted permission to transfer their charter from New Liberty to Durant and opened for business on July 10, 1935. This bank will celebrate its Fiftieth Anniversary later in the year. The present officers are as follows: Henry Hansen, President; Oliver A. Hansen, Executive Vice President; Billy D. Paulsen, Cashier; and Ted J. Ketelsen, Assistant Cashier.

Today Durant has a population exceeding eleven hundred and can boast of more than eighty business firms which serve the town and surrounding area. Several of these business firms have operated for more than thirty years. For example, Wm. Luense has been a harness maker for sixty years and established his business here in 1918. Many of the farms in this vicinity are still held by the third and fourth generation descendants of the early settlers.

Who dares to say that a small town has no history? In delving into our past, enough fact and folk lore have been unearthed to form the basis for several novels.

Through the passing of a hundred years, our town has grown and prospered, and we express gratitude for our blessings. Like any other small town, Durant has had her share of joys and sorrows, good fortune and bad, but still stands undaunted by the passing of time and serenely faces the future.

If the coming generations are as faithful to the ideals of honesty, integrity and public service as were those who have gone on before, then we shall continue to go forward to fulfill our destiny. A feature of the ancient Greek games was the relay race in which the runner, at the end of his lap, handed on the lighted torch to his successor. The torch of our history was kindled by Benjamin B. Brayton. Let it be your pledge and mine to bear it . . .

High like a beacon
Till our strong years be sped
And sinews weaken;
Till others in our stead
Take from our loosening hand
The torch full-streaming which we pass at Death's command.

Written By VIRGINIA R. MILLER
(MRS. HUXLEY A. MILLER)

Here's Proof –

This spring farmers planted over 400,000 more bushels of Pioneer than they planted just two years ago. That's proof that farmers are swinging to Pioneer for more dependable corn crops and bigger profits.

We're proud of the part the Pioneer plant in Durant played in this tremendous increase.

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Phone 152 DURANT, IOWA

HISTORY AND LOCATION Of Durant Business Establishments And Professions

1. Dusenberry Dairy: Located in building formerly built by Vincent Buchmeier and used by him as a dairy. He processed and bottled his own milk and operated a retail milk route in Durant and vicinity. Henry Dusenberry took over in March, 1951 and operates a retail milk route handling Iowana milk products, Meadow Gold ice cream and Durant Farmers Creamery butter.

2. Herb Hebbeln: This building erected in 1949. Mr. Hebbeln was located in the old creamery building from 1947 to 1949. He handles all types of Lennox furnaces and also does air-conditioning.

3. Bob's Cabins: Owned and operated by Mr. Robert Fletcher since 1946. He maintains seven completely modern cabins located on Highway No. 6.

4. Frick Funeral Home: Leroy Frick purchased the stock and equipment of the H. T. Diedrich Funeral Home in 1943. Also at that time he purchased the building where he is now located and had it completely remodeled into a very fine, up-to-date funeral home. We are indeed fortunate to have access to such fine facilities in Durant.

5. Johnny Hinrich's Sinclair Station: Built by Roy Misel in 1936 and operated by Victor Schneckloth until 1949 when Victor Bill took over the station for a short time. Johnny Hinrichs followed and is still operating this business, handling a complete line of Sinclair Oil Products.

6. Knights of Pythias Hall: Chris Toll operated a dance hall and tavern on this site. In 1876 C. H. Blunk had a dry goods and grocery store followed by Adam Von Dresky and Vogeler Tavern. Next Emma and Lida Reimers opened a millinery shop. This building burned in 1900. The present hall was built in 1905 by Thomas Wulf and was known as the Durant Turner Hall. Mrs. Bertha Mordhorst is the present owner.

7. Durant Bottling Works: This business was formerly located in the old creamery building. The present building was erected by Al Baumann and Arnold Petersen in 1947. They deliver soft drinks within a forty mile radius of Durant. In their peak year, they totalled 1,000,000 bottles of pop. They also have the National Franchise for Hire's Root Beer.

7a. Larson Insurance Agency: Mr. Ray Larson took over this agency in 1946 from Blair Hull who had an insurance agency in Durant since 1931. Mr. Larson sells fire, auto, windstorm, hail, accident and life insurance. His office is located in the Durant Bottling Works building.

1916 1954

A. R. LAMP

Durant, Iowa

Dealer in

Eggs and Poultry

Teskes "Bang" Feeds

The Home of "Hires"

Green River
Orange
Cream
Strawberry
Grape
Black Cherry
Lemon

DURANT BOTTLING WORKS

DURANT FARMERS CREAMERY ASSOCIATION

Durant, Iowa

Thirty-seven years of continuous operation, serving cream producers in this area.

Makers of "Reliance Brand" Creamery Butter

Board of Directors for 1954:

John Schlapkohl, *President*

Gilbert Wulf *Vice President*

Harry Schlapkohl H. G. Davis Alfred Olderog

A. R. Lamp *Secretary-Treasurer*

H. G. Davis *Manager and B.M.*

8. East End Tavern: Martin Buethien built this property in 1869 and sold general merchandise and bought grain. Mr. Wm. Schlapkohl purchased this store in 1908 and in 1919 Leonard Dittmer bought the store and business and operated until 1932 when he sold to Ed Christensen who later moved his business to the Trede building. Later Gorge Roehlk purchased the building and Rudy Roehlk then operated a tavern here, followed by Oscar Bruensing and Vern Meyer. Henry Ploen and Arnold Christensen now operate a tavern here. They also handle Skelgas.

9. Quality Store: Built by Henry Krone who operated a tavern followed by Hugo Wulf who opened a sandwich shop here. Later Hugo Boldt had a plumbing shop here and in October, 1927 Erickson Quality Grocery Store opened here. In June, 1928 Cecil McKillip became manager and in October, 1943 purchased the store and called it McKillip's Quality Store. It is still operated by Mr. McKillip but is known as the Circle Food Store.

10. Schell Tavern: Built by Hans Ewoldt in 1873 and the adjoining dance hall was built in 1874. Henry Gruemmer bought the property in 1886 and in 1890 built a stage in the hall. Jacob Ohlsen was the next owner followed by Thomas Wulf, Henry Krone, Louis Suhl and Julius Struve. Donald Schell is the present owner and operates a tavern in this building.

11. Trede Jewelry Store: Built by Henry Gruemmer and operated as a barber shop by Ernst Diedrich followed by Al Hagen and next by Ed Moravek. This site was also the office of Dr. C. C. Hamilton who came in 1925 and was located here until 1930. Louis Suhl operated a shoe store here until 1945 when the building was purchased by Geo. H. Trede and was completely remodeled into a jewelry store which he now operates.

12. Titus Building: In 1873 Jim Diehn began butchering and operated a meat market in this location which was later taken over by Chris Sorgenfrey. Jim Diehn later operated a tavern in the east side of the building while Gus Nielsen operated a hotel in the other part of the structure. Mrs. James Diehn operated a fine boarding house here during the year 1900. In 1903 E. C. Schmitt started a bakery shop which he operated until 1946. Stanley Rynott then opened a furniture store and also handled paints and bottled gas. In 1946 the Durant Post Office was moved from the former Farmers & Merchants Bank Building to this location. The office of Wm. Hamilton, Justice of the Peace, is also located in this building.

12a. Titus Cleaners: Opened in 1948 by Robert Titus in building directly north of the Titus building. They do all kinds of laundry and dry cleaning.

13. Dr. J. E. Christiansen, M.D.: This location was originally the office of Dr. E. O. Muhs from 1932 until 1937 when Dr. Christiansen began practicing on July 5th of that year.

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DURANT 95A WILTON 302

DURANT LODGE No. 265
KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS

Instituted April 1, 1902

CENTENNIAL BOOSTERS OF BROTHERLY LOVE

14. Dr B. J. Lewis, D.D.: In 1919 Dr. Lewis began his dentist office in Durant, and was first located in the building east of the Wm. Meese residence. In 1938 he moved to his present location, north of the Liberty Trust & Savings Bank. This location was also the office of Dr. W. R. Mecklenburg, M.D. for three or four years and was the residence of Dr. Hamilton and later the home of Chris Sorgenfrey.

15. Liberty Trust & Savings Bank: The original building which stood on this site was the home and office of Dr. Henry Schumacher, the first physician in Iowa to use cocaine as a local anaesthetic. Ferd Stoltenberg also operated a tavern in this building. This building was then moved to the north part of the lot and the Durant Post Office was located here during the terms of office of Ernest Jockheck and O. W. Bierkamp. This building was subsequently used for a pool hall and ice cream parlor and bakery shop. The present bank building was built in 1912 by the Durant Savings Bank and purchased by the Liberty Trust & Savings Bank in 1935.

16. Stan's Meat Market: This was the former Durant Savings Bank Building until they moved to their new location in 1912. This was also the location of the Bauer-Levine Meat Market, later becoming the Bauer-Thiessen Market and then was operated by Leonard "Slim" Thiessen until his death. Harlan Finck then managed the meat market for one year until March, 1953 when Mr. Stan Weisrock took over and is the present butcher.

17. Miller Drug Store: This building was built in 1887 by Gus Muhs and was occupied by him as a men's clothing and shoe store. Dr. V. W. Byrnes bought the building in 1902 and opened a medical office and drug store. Drs. Chapman and Meyhaus then purchased the building and they sold to Dr. James Irvin. Mr. H. A. Miller took over in 1921 and is still operating the drug store. Mr. Miller has been in business at this location a third of a century and in the drug business for fifty years.

18. Gritton's Tavern: This building was built in 1881 by Hans Jacob and George Brauch who operated a hardware and grocery store. Mr. Brauch left and it became a furniture and hardware store. This was also the location of the Durant Post Office when Mr. Brauch was postmaster. Herman Brauch, the son, then operated the store and was also the undertaker until 1914 when D. C. Wunder purchased the establishment. On January 1, 1924 the business became a partnership, known as Diedrich and Carstens and remained so until 1934, when, upon the death of Jacob H. Carstens, the business was sold to Hartwig Diedrich who was funeral director until 1943 when he sold the building to Vance Gritton. Mr. Gritton operated a movie house and later converted the building into a tavern.

19. Mac's White Way Cafe: Gus Gruemmer operated a tavern in this building, followed by Henry Wendt who operated a restaurant. He was followed by Otto Graves, Vena Bockwoldt, Chas. Hagen, Otto Ziebarth, J. S.

Congratulations Durant on Your

100th Anniversary

from

Equity Farmers Co-Operative Store Co.

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Quality Foods and Meats at Lowest Prices

Complete Line of General Merchandise

McKILLIP'S QUALITY STORE

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Congratulations to Durant on its

100th Anniversary

McKillip's Quality Store

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MEMBER CIRCLE FOOD STORES

Bradford and A. C. Eckerman, who were all engaged in the restaurant business. F. H. McCleery purchased the building in 1944 and is still operating a cafe.

20. Davis Barber Shop: Formerly the home of Frank Voss in 1869. In 1886 Hans Kruse bought the property and added the east side where he operated a butcher shop until 1898 followed by Claus Rohlf. In 1912 Bauer and Levine were located here. Then Henry Laschanzky started a barber shop followed by Westphal and Staack. It has housed a barber shop ever since, Mr. Howard Davis being the present barber.

21. American Legion Home Site: Originally this site was the Henry Thiessen home and tavern. The Farmers & Merchants Bank built the present building in 1903 and operated until 1931. In 1936 the Durant Post Office moved into this building and remained here until the Legion purchased the building in 1946 and completely remodeled it to suit their needs.

22. R & L Bakery: This site was the barber shop of P. C. Payton until 1897 when it was occupied as an office by Dr. V. W. Byrnes. This structure was later moved and the present building was erected in 1915 by Louis Trede. This was the location of the Chris Rohlfs and Fred Crull Meat Market until 1934 when Ed Christensen moved his grocery store to this building. He sold in 1951 to Mr. I. S. Jones who operated a grocery store until his death in 1953. The R & L Bakery now occupies the building.

23. Dr. Wyman W. Weeber, D.O.: In 1897 P. C. Payton opened a jewelry store here and operated it until 1903 when the building was purchased by Louis Trede and operated by him as a jewelry store until his death in 1937. His nephew, Geo. H. Trede, then operated the store until 1945 when he moved to a new location. Dr. Weeber opened his osteopathic office here in 1953.

24. Durant Hardware Store: Peter Stoltenberg opened a harness shop here in 1874 and sold to Herman Tuefel in 1908. In 1920 Mr. Tuefel sold to Herman Lamp and Albert J. Mumm who operated a hardware store until 1952 when they dissolved partnership and the business was sold. Mr. Howard Speer is the present owner and operates the business.

25. Dickey Implement Co.: The east side of the building was once a blacksmith shop operated by Fritz Timmermann for seven years. Rash McClean followed as a smithy and operated a machine shop. Part of this building was the old Karroff residence in which was located a mustard factory operated by Hans Erickson. Following this Louis Trede opened a jewelry store. Then Wm. Bierkamp bought this property and built the west frame structure. Arthur and Roy Schiele purchased the building in 1906 from Wm. Bierkamp and in 1907 Arthur purchased Roy's interest and operated here until 1912. He carried a full line of farm machinery, buggies, wagons and automobiles. In 1908 he took the agency for Mitchell automobiles and sold the first car to be sold in

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GRAIN, SEED, FEED AND COAL

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Durant. Later he sold Moline, Studebaker and Chevrolet automobiles. He sold to Elza Lundy in 1912 who operated an implement business until 1916 when Mr. Lundy sold his business to A. J. Kleinjan. Mr. Kleinjan carried on in the implement business until 1945 when he sold to S. A. Dickey who is still operating, selling New Idea, Ferguson and Massey Harris farm machinery as well as DeLaval Separators and milkers and Maytag and Bendix appliances.

26. Durant Cafe: Handermark & Hemple opened a shoe repair shop at this location over eighty years ago. Later this building was moved to another site. In 1902 Ernest Lautz built the present structure which was used as a clothing store. In 1916 he sold to Fred Bielenberg who also operated a clothing store followed by Mr. Richard Anderson, Henry Laschanzky and George Hass, all clothiers. Wm. Goll operated a pool hall here until the building was purchased by George Shea who opened a cafe. Later the business was sold to Earl Tunis and Dr. Hood now owns the building.

27. L. C. Luethye Co.: Henry Boll operated a harness shop in the 1880's. Miss A. C. Englan then had a millinery shop followed by Chas. Schneckloth barber shop from 1908 to 1912. Vena Bockwoldt and Rosa Huchendorf then operated a lunch room in this building. In 1918 Wm Luense had a harness shop in the back of the building and Wm. Bierkamp had a real estate office in the front part of the building. In 1937 L. C. Luethye purchased the building from Mr. Bierkamp and added office quarters on to the east side of the building. Luethye does plumbing, heating, electrical work and handles General Electric appliances.

27a. Dr. James Hood, Veterinarian: The office space on the east side of the Luethye building was occupied by Dr. Lonergan, M.D. for a period of two years, followed by Dr. I. W. Moranville, Veterinarian, until 1945 when Dr. James Hood took over and is still practicing.

28. Elmer Makoben Tavern: Leonard Petersen built this place in 1891 and operated until 1902. He sold to F. C. Gimm followed by Wm. Belter in 1904, Hugo Schneckloth in 1919, George Hass in 1921, Peter Martin in 1922, A. J. Bangert in 1928 and Elmer Makoben, the present owner, in 1940.

28a. Warren "Skip" Raymond Barber Shop: Purchased the trade from Ed Moravek in 1952. Ed Moravek came to Durant in 1914 and worked with Henry Laschanzky in what is now known as the Luethye building for four months prior to locating in the Geo. H. Trede site. Mr. Moravek then moved to the north side of the Elmer Makoben building where he operated a barber shop for many years.

29. A. R. Lamp Produce: Ben Hoag came in 1907 to operate a produce house. In 1909 he erected the building which is now occupied by A. R. Lamp. Mr. Hoag purchased eggs, poultry and cream which were shipped to other markets. Mr. Lamp has operated his produce station since 1916.

F. Mueller Sons and Company

Dealers in

FEEDS — SEEDS — FERTILIZER

PHONE 230 DURANT, IOWA

Otto Schweitzer, Manager

Congratulations

To Durant on its

First 100 Years

E & E TRUCKING

DURANT'S OLDEST LIVESTOCK TRUCKER

Experienced Drivers

All Shipment Fully Insured

30. Cole Motor Co.: In 1899 H. F. Bierkamp operated an implement shop here and in 1906 Mr. Bierkamp started in the automobile business, taking on the Overland and Maxwell agency. In 1909 he discontinued this line and started selling Ford cars. Mr. Bierkamp sold Fords for thirty-eight year, and when he sold out in 1947, he had had the Ford agency longer than any other dealer in the State of Iowa. In 1947 the business was sold to Bleyart Brothers who operated under the name of Durant Motor Co. In 1954 the business was sold to Lawrence Cole and moved to a different location. Cole Motor Co. leased the building 1954 and handled Plymouth and DeSoto automobiles, operated by Merwyn Cole.

31. Henderson Motor Co.: Wm. Wulf operated a blacksmith shop here until 1881 when John Dietz followed in the trade. Next was Chas. Stutzer, followed by Hy Guelek and John Bierkamp who was a blacksmith in Durant for over fifty years. Mr. Bierkamp sold to H. J. Kunzelmann who operated a blacksmith shop for a short while. The front half of the building was built by Wm. Broders and he and H. H. Schafer operated an implement business here until 1927. Then Hugo Schneckloth had a garage at this location for one year and then Arthur F. Schiele purchased the building, enlarging it in 1937. Mr. Schiele operated a garage, selling Chevrolets until May, 1943 when he sold to Henderson Motor Co.

32. Wm. Luense: Mr. Luense came to Durant in 1918 and operated a harness shop in the rear of what is now the Luethye building. Two years later he moved to the present Durant News building until 1921 when he built and moved to the building he now occupies. He has been a harness maker for sixty years and also does shoe repairing.

33. Stucco Tourist Home: Dr. Thomas Jacobs, M.D., bought this place in 1920, opened an office and enlarged the building so it could serve as a hospital. Dr. Jacobs left in 1933 and in 1936 J. S. Bradford purchased the building and operated a rooming house. In 1938 it was sold to Mrs. Nellie Archibald Ehlert who operated a tourist home. In 1944 it was purchased by Wm. Lohse who sold to Elmer Langmann in 1946. In 1950 it was purchased by Emil Bannister who is the present owner and operator.

34. Durant Frozen Food Locker Plant: This building was erected in 1940 and has been operated by B. J. Grings since that time.

35. Fran's Beauty Salon: Located in what was the former F. N. Bockwoldt residence and is operated by Mrs. Harry Larson.

36. Ellis Motel: Built in 1952 by Mr. P. D. Ellis and features eleven completely modern motel units.

37. Nodurft Home Plumbing and Heating Co.: Mr. Nodurft was formerly located in the old creamery building until 1952 when this building was erected. Mr. Nodurft does plumbing and heating as well as repair work and features Westinghouse appliances.

The Durant News
Extends Hearty Congratulations to Durant
During its Centennial Celebration

THE DURANT NEWS

CHARLES E. FRY
Editor and Publisher
Phone 94

JUANITA L. FRY
Associate Editor
Durant, Iowa

Weekly News and Commercial Printing

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DURANT, IOWA

DURANT FABRICATING and REPAIR CO.

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Rheumatism, Both Acute and Chronic
For Better Health for the Next Century See Your Chiropractor

DR. C. W. TRAIL
Chiropractor
PHONE 30, DURANT, IOWA

38. American Petroleum Station: This station was built in 1933 by Harry McMurphy and was taken over by Stanley Rynott in 1935 who operated for several years. Mr. Frank Meixner is the present station operator.

39. Durant Engineering: Built in 1948 by Russell Bixby. He does machine work, makes tools and dies and does welding.

40. Leese Hatchery: Owned and operated by Alvin Leese who came to Durant in the spring of 1948 and is located just west of the schoolhouse. Mr. Leese operates a hatchery and sells feed and buys and sells produce.

41. Idle Hour Lanes: Built in 1950 by A. F. and Wendell Schukar featuring eight very modern bowling alleys. Mr. A. F. Schukar became the sole owner in 1954 by buying out his brother's interest.

41a. Idle Hour Cafe: Operated by Mrs. Norma Korthaus in connection with the bowling lanes.

42. Midway Station: Now open for business located on Highway No. 6.

43. Durant Farmers Creamery Association: Was organized in 1916 with the following board members: Chas. Boettger, Henry Goettsch, Ben Kook, Henry Nitz and George Thede. In 1917 the present structure was built and the first butter churned in 1917. This building has since been enlarged and new and modern equipment installed. Mr. A. R. Lamp has been seceretary-treasurer since 1918. Mr. Harold G. Davis became buttermaker in 1921 and still serves in that capacity.

44. Equity Farmers Co-operative Store Company: The original building was erected in 1857 and belonged to Joe Hering during the 1870's. In 1876 C. H. Blunk opened a dry goods and grocery store on the north side and on the south side Joe Hering operated a tavern. Later Hoepner and Petersen operated the store and then it became Petersen and Tagge store and tavern until 1920 when it became the Equity Farmers Co-operative Store Company with Harry Puck as manager for many years. In November, 1946, Raymond Christensen became manager until March, 1950 when C. D. Bentley took over as manager. The store has since been remodeled and they are starting further improvements.

45. Standard Oil Station: This station was built in 1925 and the first operator was Herman Reimers followed by Wm. Bockwoldt and Harvey Wiese. In 1928 Henry Smull operated the station until 1931 when Chas. Knudsen took over and is still operating. This station is also the stop for the Greyhound Bus lines, said bus lines having operated through Durant since 1924.

45a. Henry Smull Standard Oil Bulk Station: Mr. Smull has operated the bulk plant and tank wagon service since 1931.

46. Mueller Feed Store: This building was erected by A. F. Schiele who operated a garage until 1928 when he moved to the present Henderson Garage

DURANT MEAT MARKET

Choice Fresh and Smoked Meats

PHONE 65 DURANT, IOWA

DENKMANN AND MEINERT

INSURANCE FOR EVERY PURPOSE

Established 1920

PHONE 139 or 49 DURANT, IOWA

JOHN SORENSEN

BUILDER — CONTRACTOR

PHONE 116 DURANT, IOWA

CONGRATULATIONS

J. M. HOOD, D.V.M.

DURANT, IOWA

site. In 1947 he sold the building to Mueller & Sons who operate a Feed Seed & Grain Store. Mr. Otto Schweitzer is the manager.

47. Erickson Trucking Lines: This building was built by Henry Nelson in 1904 and he sold coal and ice followed by George Reimers and then Henry Stutzer. In 1920 Horn Bros. bought from Stutzer and added a trucking line. In 1944 Harry and Waldo Horn sold to Erickson who operates eight livestock trucks, trucking principally to Chicago. They have an Interstate Commerce Commission permit.

48. Fire Station Site: Wm Wulf started a coal and tile business and scale office just east of this location in the Pythian Park in 1883 and in 1904 sold to Henry Nelson who moved the building to the present Erickson Trucking site. The present building housing our fire department and city jail was built in 1923.

49. Durant Elevator: The first elevator was owned by Wm. Koester and purchased by Theo. Sindt in 1890. In 1893 it burned down completely and was rebuilt and sold in 1902 to Ed and Fred Denkmann. In 1903 it burned again and was rebuilt in 1925, operating under the name of Fred Denkmann and Son. In 1931, the son, Richard, operated alone until 1933 when B. C. Denkmann became a partner in the business known as the Durant Elevator Company. In 1952 it was taken over by Richard Denkmann and Son.

50. Roy's Refrigeration Service: This business started in 1953 by Roy Staschke in the old scale office. He features all types of refrigeration repair as well as a complete line of Crosley appliances.

51. Schneckloth Lumber Company: This site was originally an elevator owned and operated by Frank Haller for many years. He also bought cattle and hogs. In 1899 it was struck by lightning and burned down completely and was never rebuilt. In 1900 the present building was built by Mueller Lumber Company and was managed by Rudolph Meyer, followed by Jim Harkens and Wm. Welch. In December, 1931, it was sold to H. H. Schneckloth Lumber Company. They deal in lumber, paint, hardware, coal and ready-mix cement. Mr. Wm. Erps is the manager.

52. Farm Equipment Company: This building was erected by Henry Stutzer and used as a dairy barn. In 1922 he converted it into a garage which he operated until 1931. C. E. Baxter & Sons purchased it in 1935 and added a filling station. Later the station was operated by Lyle Bridgford for one year followed by Vern Meyer for a few years. In 1947 the building was bought by Mrs. Herman Schneckloth and in 1950 the Farm Equipment Company leased the building and are dealers for John Deere equipment.

53. Porky's Maid-Rite: Built by Vic Schneckloth in 1950 and operated by him until December, 1951 when he sold to H. C. "Porky" Snyder, the present owner.

Oliver Tractors — Diesels and Gasoline

New Holland Implements

Sales — Parts — Service

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DURANT, IOWA Phone 22

54. Durant Implement Company: This structure was built by Joe McCoy and purchased by Carl F. Miller in 1946. Mr. Miller sold to Henry Martz in 1953. Mr. Martz sells Oliver Machinery and New Holland balers.

55. Arny Alpen Trucking and Bottle Gas Service: Mr. Alpen started trucking in 1941, principally livestock to Chicago and local and long distance moving. He now operates seven trucks. In 1953 he purchased the Propane Gas business from Wm. Robb.

56. Foy's D-X Service Station: Built by Walter Guttenfelder in 1936 and he operated the station, lunch room and garage until 1945. Merle Foy has been in charge since 1949 and features D-X products.

57. Durant Foundry and Machine Company: This foundry was built in 1948, making aluminum and brass castings. Walter Anderson and Chester W. Johnson are managers.

58. D-X Bulk Plant: Orville Valet manages the bulk station and operates D-X tank wagon service.

59. Russelloy Foundry: This building was erected in 1947 and is a branch of the Riverside Foundry of Bettendorf. They make grey iron castings.

60. Kahl Body Shop: Petersen Bros. built this place in 1916 and were located at that time on the main highway into town. They operated a garage until 1949 when Kahl took over and today operates a body repair shop.

60a. Furst & Close Garage: Located in the Kahl Body Shop. Operated by Hans Furst and Ralph Close and doing engine work.

61. Cities Service Bulk Plant: Operated by Roy Lammers who also has Cities Service Tank Wagon Service.

62. Farm Service Bulk Plant: Under management of Walter Lambert. Also drives Farm Service Tank Wagon.

63. C. T. Schacht: In 1920 John Schacht Sr. purchased the concrete block plant from C. H. Burmeister which he operated in connection with his mason contracting business. In 1923 his son, Carl, became a partner and the firm was known as John Schacht & Son. The firm expanded into general contracting, doing carpenter and mason work, adding lumber, tile and coal. In 1946 upon upon the death of his father, Carl became owner, adding millwork and fencing material.

64. Pioneer Hi-Bred Seed Corn Company: Formerly the Farmers Institute Sale Pavilion where livestock sales were held. The Farmers Institute was finally disbanded and in 1934 the building was sold to the Pioneer Hi-Bred Corn Company and has been enlarged a number of times and modern equipment installed. Hugh Morrison was the first manager. M. L. "Lyle" Bruch was manager from 1938 to 1951 when Ronald Anderson took over and is the present manager.

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DURANT, IOWA

They employ twenty men on a yearly basis and at harvest time twenty-five extra men are hired to sort, dry, shell and sack the seed corn. During detasseling, they employ six hundred boys and girls in addition to two hundred foreign laborers (Mexicans, Jamaicans and Bahamans). One year they hired war prisoners. Pioneer contracts twenty-two hundred acres for commercial seed and process from 125,000 to 140,000 bushels of seed corn per year. The Parent Seed Corn Plant in connection with this is managed by Byron Blewitt.

65. Durant Fabricating and Repair Company: This building was erected by Clarence Hass and Wm. Specht in 1923 as a garage. In 1925 Elmer Langmann purchased the interest of Clarence Hass and it was known as Langmann and Specht until 1926 when Specht operated it alone. In 1932 it was purchased by the Farmer's Union Oil Company and in 1937 it was sold to Louis Warner and known as the Durant Oil Company. In April, 1951 it was sold to Wesley Muller, the present owner who does blacksmithing, welding and operates a machine shop.

66. Durant Body Shop: Built in 1952 by Evald Toft who also operates same.

67. Durant Feed Mill: In 1893 Herman Huchendorf sold his mill at Pine Creek and was looking for a new location either in Durant or Wilton. At that time public spirited farmers in this vicinity offered to give money toward the building of a mill, so Durant became the site. In 1903 it was sold to Otto Kruger and A. B. Nelson. In 1907 Otto Kruger sold his share of the Durant Roller Mill to M. E. Nelson, and the two brothers operated the mill. They made Honest Abe Flour and delivered it by team within a radius of twenty to thirty miles. It was for a time the only mill in Cedar County. In 1918 Ace bought his brother Merle's share and he continued to operate the mill until 1947 when he sold to John Fischer who is the present owner. The name was then changed to the Durant Feed Mill.

68. Durant Municipal Light Plant: This was the site of the Durant Town Hall which was built in 1891 where the Town Council meetings were held. It was removed in 1942 when the present plant was built. In 1941 a citizens committee was appointed with Arthur F. Schiele as General Chairman to act upon the proposition of a Municipal Light Plant. After a great deal of investigation and effort, it was brought before the people and an election was held. There were 515 votes cast of which 359 were Yes and 141 No and 15 spoiled ballots. This was the largest vote ever cast in Durant up to that time. The plant was built in 1942 with two engines installed. In 1945 a third engine was added and in 1951 a fourth. There are 599 meters installed in our town including residence, hot water, commercial and power meters. There are 48 transformers. Harry Sorgenfrey was the first manager from 1942 to 1946. O. E. Arny followed until 1948 and Robert Riggle is the present manager. The city scale and the office of the city clerk are also operated in connection with this building.

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MORTUARY
INCORPORATED

824 West Third Street

Davenport, Iowa

69. Pearl's Beauty Shop: Henry Haak had a shop here where he made cigars. Mrs. Henry Hagge opened her beauty shop here in 1948.

70. Telephone Office: Dr. H. T. Emeis, Physician, had a drug store and office here in 1878. Mrs. Andrew Banks operated a millinery store here for many years. Abe Knapp, Durant's first veterinarian, later had his office here. Drs. V. W. and Thomas Byrnes opened a drug store and office which they operated for a number of years. Mr. Hans Meewes of Tipton, established and operated the first telephone exchange. Later it became the property of Dr. H. R. Chapman of Bennett and the lines extended to Bennett, Sunbury, New Liberty and Tipton. At this time there were 45 telephones. In 1928 it was sold to the Central Iowa Telephone Company and in 1953 it became the property of the United Telephone Company of Iowa. At present there are 650 telephones. Mrs. Phil Weber is at present the chief operator.

71. Durant News Office: Schroeder and Bohstedt came in 1876 and started a general store later operated by Mr. Bohstedt. John Stoltenberg followed. Mr. Bohstedt had a post office in the small building on the west side. The Durant Star was established in October, 1898 by Herman Kuehl as editor and publisher. In 1902 it passed into the hands of H. C. Ellingsworth for two years. He was succeeded by W. S. Price followed by C. W. Hamilton in 1907 who was the publisher until 1922. In 1925 George Harling became owner and publisher and changed the name to the Durant News. Mr. Harling has been editor and publisher of this weekly publication for twenty-seven years. He has also served as Justice of the Peace at various intervals. In 1952 Mr. Harling sold the paper to Charles Fry.

72. Trede Electric Company: In 1855 Dr. E. B. Bills, Durant's first physician, built an office and drug store on this site and practiced until 1902. In 1907 Dr. V. W. Byrnes bought the place and erected a new building and opened a drug store and office. He practiced for forty-five years in Durant until 1944. In 1945 the building was sold to Wm. G. Trede who now operates an electric appliance store featuring Amana freezers and Hot Point appliances and does all types of electrical wiring.

73. Dr. C. W. Trail, D.C.: Dr. Trail came to Durant in 1944 and purchased the Ferd Stoltenberg home where he has had his chiropractic office since that time.

74. Velma's Beauty Shop: Operated by Mrs. Eldon Otto in her home in the north part of town formerly known as the Paustian residence.

75. Denkmann & Meinert: A partnership consisting of B. C. Denkmann and Walter Meinert writing all types of insurance and bonds. In existence since 1920.

76. Contractors: Joe McCoy, Herbert Johansen, Chas. Nissen and John Sorensen.

77. Jerry Schiele: Owns and operates a truck doing local and long distance hauling.

78. Real Estate Brokers: Elmer Langmann and H. H. Schafer.

FARMERS'
Mutual Insurance Association
OF SCOTT COUNTY, IOWA

WALCOTT, IOWA

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2422 North Howell — Phone 2-1825

DAVENPORT, IOWA

HISTORICAL SITES and INFORMATION OF INTEREST

A. Passmore Service Station: Built and operated by the Passmores for many years until it burned in 1952.

B.. South half of Dr. Lewis' lot: Bob Ehle Livery Stable formerly located here.

C. Lot west of Davis Barber Shop: House of Claus Aft located here at one time followed by Mrs. Henry Wendt who was a seamstress prior to 1903. Also the home and office of Dr. Cecil Johnson from 1903 to 1905. Also the site of the Herman Steffen real estate office. Later the building was sold to Henry Shryer, Sr. and Henry Shryer, Jr. operated a tavern and pool hall here followed by Frack and Huchendorf. Then Nick McCleary from Moline operated a pool hall and soft drink parlor in one part of the building and George Sickmon had a barber shop in the other part. The building burned in 1933.

D. Hardware Store Annex: Claus and John Boldt opened a plumbing shop here in 1876 and also handled paints, oil and building material. John Boldt sold out and Claus operated until 1907. Then his son, Hugo, took over until 1912. The building was then traded for land in Dakota. Dr. R. O. Byerrum had his veterinary office in this building followed by Dr. Ascuity and by Dr. I. W. Moranville who came to Durant in 1920. Dr. Moranville occupied this building until 1943 when he moved to the Luethye building. Gus Stark purchased the building and Orville Garris opened a barber shop in 1922 and operated until 1929 when Herman Lamp purchased the building and it has since been used as storage by the Durant Hardware Store. At one time Lulu Luethye had a beauty shop on the second floor of the building. L. C. Luethye also began his plumbing and heating business in this locacion, later moving to his present site.

E. Lot west of Luethye site: The Kickapoo Indian Medicine Show was held here and they sold their medicine which was supposed to cure every known ailment. They went into the timber south of town and gathered their herbs for sassaparilla, cough syrup, salve, etc. During the 1880's they made their appearance every September for five or six years.

F. North side of alley north of Makoben Tavern: In 1874 Wm. Bierkamp opened a wagon shop here and operated until 1913 when Frank Joens took possession. Mr. Joens operated until 1933, doing wagon work and handled pumps, windmills and tanks.

G. Hugo Boldt Plumbing Shop: Mr. Boldt moved from the Quality Store location in 1927 and built a plumbing and heating shop back of his residence

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Phone 72 Wilton Junction, Iowa

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which he operated until retiring in 1943. The building is now used as a warehouse by L. C. Luethye.

H. Site of H. F. Bierkamp home: John Horst at one time opened a wagon shop at this site which was later removed.

I. Durant Motor Co. Building: Otis Ellis built an oil station on this site in 1932 and an adjoining lunch room in 1933. He operated both until 1939 when A. F. Schukar bought it. In 1942 the lunch room was enlarged and in 1949 it became Ovesen Motors. In 1951 Vincent Buchmeier took over and Lawrence Cole became the owner in 1953, having the Ford agency until 1954.

J. Old Creamery Building: Operated by Henry Puck and Chris Sorgenfrey for many years. Then the White Sulphur Springs Co. followed. Roy Schiele purchased the building in 1908 and operated a bottling works until 1937 when the business was sold to Baumann and Petersen. This building also housed the Nodurft Home Plumbing and Heating Company as well as the Herb Hebbeln Plumbing and Heating Company until they moved to their present locations.

K. Lot back of Standard Bulk Plant: The house originally located here was occupied by John McCarthy in 1865. He was section foreman of the C. R. I. & P. Railroad Company. Peter Fritson was the next foreman followed by Ed Beck, Chris Boller and Pearl Jump, who is the present foreman.

L. Legion Auxiliary Park: Located just east of the Standard Station. On this site Andrew Banks operated a coal business in 1883. His son, William Banks, was a contractor until 1944. During World War II the American Legion Auxiliary erected an Honor Roll Board here honoring World War II Veterans. This site is now used by the Henderson Motor Co. as a used car lot.

M. Schacht Warehouse Site: Henry Hartz, Sr. erected a small building on this site for his daughter, Mary, who operated a millinery shop for several years. Then Hartwig Diedrich, Sr. bought it and had a barber shop and tailor shop. Later the building was moved to the present site of the McKillip's Quality Store but was later removed. The Burmeister Flats was owned by Chris Burmeister who operated a mustard factory for a number of years. John Petersen had a bakery later and John Feldhahn peddled baked goods through the surrounding country. Miss Beuthien then had baked goods sent out from Davenport and she was the first to sell ice cream in Durant. In 1898 the Schmitt family consisting of a father and three sons, moved in and operated a bakery here.

N. Wm. Meese Residence: In 1877 Brauch Bros. bought the building from Mr. Hayford and opened a hardware store and operated until 1881 when they built the present Gritton building. Henry Meese purchased this building in 1881 and opened a shoe shop, making and repairing shoes. Later his son, William, operated a shoe repair shop until his death. On the west side of the building, Mrs. Meese operated a millinery shop for a number of years.

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O. Building east of Meese property: Built by Dr. Wm. Haller who practiced for many years followed by Dr. Black who sold to Dr. Wormhout. In 1919 Dr. B. J. Lewis opened his dentist office here and practiced in this building until 1938 when he moved to his present location.

P. Matheny Apartment Site: This was built as a hotel in 1856. Henry Kohl operated a hotel here followed by John Toll, Julius Hartz, Mrs. Emma Sibbers and Amelia Hass, John Griebel and Lowell Morton. The building was then purchased by Fred Denkmann and used it as an apartment building. It was sold in 1949 to Wilbur Matheny who remodeled the building into several apartments.

Q. Building west of Telephone Office: Dr. C. Pingrey operated a general store here and also was postmaster. He opened a lumber yard across the street from this location.

R. Rogers Home Site: Henry Meese was a shoemaker here in 1878. Later it became the office of the Durant Star for a few years. Later the office of John Wiebner who was one of the first mason contractors in Durant. This property was recently purchased by the Pioneer Hi-Bred Seed Corn Company. The house will be removed and the lot used for storage facilities.

S. Dwelling west of Midway Station: This home was built prior to 1871 as Mr. Charley Lautz came to Durant in that year and purchased this dwelling. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Lautz, the youngest being Miss Lena Lautz who still lives in this house where she was born.

T. Contractors prominent in Durant's history: Diedrich, Hamann, Henry Staak, Henry Hartz, Sr., Frank Voss, Chris Voss, Johannes Voss, Wm. Banks and John Schacht & Son.

U. Rural Mail Carriers: Nick Lamaack from February 1, 1902 to March, 1906. He delivered with horse and buggy. Ferd Carstens from March 1906 to March, 1946. Mr. Carstens served as mail carrier for forty years and it was while he was still delivering mail the change was made from horse and buggy to a modern means of transportation. Cecil W. Langmann was appointed rural mail carrier in 1946 and is still serving.

V. Postmasters of Durant:

John Hansen	August 12, 1852
Isaac Gilbert	February 13, 1857
Nathan Dudley	April 14, 1857
Erastus B. Bills	October 1, 1857
Benjamin Weaver	May 4, 1861
Orlando Cone	October 4, 1861
Henry Loomis	July 15, 1862
Darius Pingrey	April 28, 1873
Joseph Weaver	December 4, 1885

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DAVENPORT BANK
AND TRUST COMPANY

DAVENPORT, IOWA

Resources Approximate Ninety-five Million Dollars

H. J. Brauch	June 8, 1887
Marcus Bohstedt	December 17, 1897
Ernest Jockheck	March 25, 1914
Otto W. Bierkamp	December 4, 1922
Cecil W. Langmann	March 1, 1934
Raymond Meinert	April 1, 1946

W. Some of the former Mayors of Durant: Allen Nesbitt, Dr. Schumacher, Wm. Bierkamp, E. F. Jockheck, Ed Denkmann, Rudolph Meyer, Henry Bierkamp, George Roehlk, Dr. B. J. Lewis, Elmer Langmann and Gus Jost.

X. Real Estate Brokers: Herman Steffen, Wm. Bierkamp, Henry Bierkamp, John H. Cook and Harry H. Horn.

Y. Station Agents: H. S. Downs, B. W. Brown, Julius Shryer, Sr., Fred Lanfeldt, Newton Stinger, Chas. Lautz, Jim Kerlin, Blair Hull and Gus Jost from 1932 to the present time.

Z. Oldest persons living in Durant: Mrs. Anna E. Schiele is the oldest person still living in Durant. She observed her ninetieth birthday on February 16, 1954. The oldest person living in Durant who was born here is Mrs. Alvena Trede who is eighty years of age. The building on the west corner of Block Eight now occupied by Mrs. Trede as her residence was built in 1878. Mrs Trede has lived in Durant for seventy-one years.

A note on Sports: Still vivid in the memory of the baseball fans of the country is the game played between Durant and the Iowa City "Bugs" in the summer of 1909 at Iowa City. The game was started at two thirty in the afternoon to enable the Durant team to catch their train for home; however, the game had good prospects of being called on account of darkness, when, in the first of the nineteenth inning, with two men on, Griffith missed a fly ball, and Swords of Durant trotted home from third thus ending the best and longest baseball game of the season with a 1 to 0 victory for Durant. The line-up for Durant was Stone, Otis Ellis, Leverish, Einefeldt, Sword, Engman, Rinsland, Lamp and Ficken.

Notable also in the sports history of Durant is the fact that a former local boy, Lester Stoefen, son of Hugo Stoefen, became National Tennis Champion.

The foregoing information contained in "History and Location of Durant Business Establishments and Professions" and "Historical Sites and Information of Interest" was gathered and compiled by Mrs. Alvena Trede, Mrs. Arthur F. Schiele and Mr. and Mrs. Harlan J. Cook.

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Wilton Junction, Iowa

Congratulations

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PETER PAN

BREAD

CHORD MUSIC CO.

Davenport

Home of the

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and

Fine Pianos

DEUTSCHES KOCHKUNST

As you drive through the beautiful country around Durant, you will see the rich green fields, the well built and well kept homes, mute testimony of the thrift and industry of these solid citizens. If you know your way around, you will manage an invitation to dinner at one of these homes, or, better still, an invitation to a Kaffee Klatsch or a birthday party. All through the years Durant housekeepers have been known far and wide for their hospitality, and their wonderful and unusual regional cooking as they tempt you with their generous servings of plain, delicious, wholesome, stick-to-the-ribs kind of food.

Following are a few recipes collected over a period of years and from various sources, but all from this vicinity. It is difficult to get these recipes down to small, accurate proportions for all these directions have been lovingly passed from mother to daughter or friend to friend with instructions to "take a bowl of flour," "butter the size of an egg," "a heaping tablespoon of baking powder" or "a pinch of salt." Once, when I asked my mother how to make gooseberry pie, she told me, "Put in as much sugar as you think you can afford. Then shut your eyes and pour." This is no attempt to compile a great number of recipes but rather a few of the tried and true ones which have never been written down. For example, have you ever seen a recipe for making sauerkraut?

SAUERKRAUT

It is usually made in a barrel. Take the desired number of firm cabbages, remove the tough outer leaves and slice into shreds. In the bottom of the barrel put a layer of coarse salt, then a layer of sliced cabbage and salt again until the desired amount is packed. With each layer of cabbage pound down with a heavy wooden potato masher or mallet until the juice flows on the surface, then a fresh layer may be added. When the sauerkraut is made, place in a dry cellar, cover with a clean, dry cloth. On top of the kraut a plank should be placed and on this a heavy weight. At the end of a few days it will begin to ferment, then draw off the liquid and replace with a little fresh water. Repeat this each day until liquid stays clear, then remove cloth, wash and cover again and put weights back. Let stand for a month, and then it will be ready for use. If the kraut is too sour, pour clear water over it and press out again. When you wish to use some, put desired amount in a granite kettle with enough water to partially cover and cook it for fifteen or twenty minutes.

They tell us that many of our grandmothers used kraut for stuffing fowl. However, more popular today is the famous Sweet Dressing. I believe this is the first time this recipe has been published.

M. L. PARKER CO.

DAVENPORT'S FINE STORE

Davenport, Iowa

SWEET DRESSING

6 slices white bread, broken in small pieces
½ cup seedless raisins
2 cups tart apples, cubed
2 tablespoons cinnamon
½ teaspoon salt
3 tablespoons melted butter

Mix together thoroughly. Pack lightly into fowl which has been prepared for roasting. This amount is sufficient for a five or six pound duck. Some cooks also add ½ cup pitted prunes and a slice or two of lemon.

Another favorite that usually accompanied a fowl dinner was Hinquin Pudding.

HINQUIN PUDDING

1 cup Molasses (dark Karo or Brer Rabbit will do)
1 cup soft butter
1 cup washed seedless raisins
1 cup water

Mix thoroughly, then add one teaspoon soda and three cups flour, or enough to make a stiff batter. Fill one large or three small pudding molds half full. Steam three hours in a closed mold. This makes about eighteen servings. If not used at one time, this will keep for some time and may be reheated as it should be served hot. The following sauce is used:

HINQUIN PUDDING SAUCE

1 cup granulated sugar
1 cup soft butter
1 well beaten egg

Mix together until creamy. Just before using, add one tablespoon cold water.

POTATO PANCAKES

1 beaten egg
2 tablespoons flour
¼ teaspoon salt
1 tablespoon finely chopped onion
¼ cup milk
2 cups grated raw potato

Mix all together and fry in butter on hot griddle.

Wilton Floral Co.

Distinctive Floral Service

PHONE 172

WILTON JUNCTION,

IOWA

Compliments of

JAKE'S SUPER MARKET

Wilton Junction, Iowa

WINTER'S MARKETS

Wilton Junction — Atalissa — West Liberty

Wish You Congratulations
On Your Centennial

GERMAN CHRISTMAS COOKIES

Every housekeeper baked these cookies for Christmas.

1 cup dark molasses
1 cup sugar
1 cup shortening (½ butter and ½ lard)

Combine in pan and put on stove and heat until sugar is dissolved (don't boil). Let cool and add the following ingredients:

6 cups sifted flour
1 heaping teaspoon of salts of tartar (baking potash) dissolved in a little warm water
1 large teaspoon cinnamon
¼ teaspoon nutmeg
¼ teaspoon cloves
grated rind of an orange
grated rind of one-half lemon

Add flour a little at a time and if it gets too stiff to stir, knead it in. Put dough in cool place for several hours or until the next day. Then put it in a warm place so you can roll it. Roll quite thin. Cut with cookie cutter. Bake in a medium oven about 375°. Makes seven or eight dozen cookies.

FRITTERS (FURTEN)

4 eggs, beaten separately
1 cup sugar
1 cup milk (warm)
1 yeast cake
1 cup butter and lard melted
½ teaspoon vanilla
½ teaspoon cardamon
1 cup raisins
4 cups flour

Soak yeast in milk for one-half hour. Cream butter and sugar. Add egg yolks, spices, salt. After yeast is raised, add to butter mixture. Stir in flour and raisins. Last stir in beaten egg whites. Let raise until light. Stir it down. Drop by teaspoonfuls into fritter pan or hot deep fat.

SAND TARTS

2 cups sugar
1 cup lard and butter
1 egg
2 ¼ cups sifted flour
2 rounding teaspoons baking ammonia
1 teaspoon vanilla

Cream shortening and sugar. Add whole egg. Mix thoroughly. Stir in vanilla. Sift flour and ammonia that has been finely crushed and add to creamed mixture. Drop on tins and bake in 350° oven.

Congratulations

and Best Wishes

HOME MIX FEED CO.

Wilton Jct., Iowa

Your Purina Dealer

NEVER FAIL PIE CRUST

(This recipe is known to be over one hundred years old)

3 cups flour
1 heaping cup lard
1 teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon baking powder

Sift flour once into bowl. Add other ingredients. Beat 1 whole egg and add one tablespoon vinegar and 5 tablespoons ice cold water to egg. Pour over flour mixture in bowl. Mix all together until well blended and it forms into a ball. This will make three one crust pies or will keep some time in the refrigerator.

GROTEN-HANS

Cook a piece of ham. In a large bowl soak 6 or 8 or 10 slices of dry bread or sweet rolls in milk. Then into this beat 2 or 3 eggs, 1 teaspoon vanilla and a little cinnamon. Add at least 1 cup flour to this and pour this into a white cloth, tie shut and hang this into the kettle in which the ham is cooking. Let this cook for at least 1½ hours.

SAUCE

Soak 1 pound prunes and simmer until tender. Thicken with cornstarch and eat this over the groten-hans.

BUTTERMILK SOUP

(An old German favorite)

1 quart buttermilk. Put in pan over medium hot fire. Stir constantly until it boils. Stir in 1 tablespoon sugar and ¼ teaspoon salt and ½ cup washed rice. Boil slowly until rice is soft. Instead of rice, one may drop in dumplings.

ICED FRUIT SOUP

2 cups fruit juice (grape, orange, elderberry, raspberry, etc.)
¼ cup sugar
1 stick cinnamon
5 cups water
4 tablespoon sago or minute tapioca

Boil cinnamon in water for a few minutes. Stir in tapioca and sugar. Cook until thickened. Cool and add fruit juice. Chill thoroughly and serve.

SCOTT COUNTY
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POTATO CAKE

2 cups sugar
4 eggs
1 big high cup cold mashed potatoes
1 cup lard
1 cup sour milk
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 teaspoon cinnamon
3 cups flour
½ cup cocoa
1 heaping teaspoon soda

Cream lard and sugar. Add cold mashed potatoes. Beat the 4 eggs and add to creamed mixture. Sift the dry ingredients together and add to the creamed mixture alternately with the milk. Bake in layer pans (will make 2 large layers or 3 small), starting in 350° oven and increase to 375° when batter has raised and is bubbly. Bake for about 20 minutes.

DUMPLINGS

2 cups flour, stir in enough boiling water to make a thick dough. Stir in one unbeaten egg and pinch of salt. Drop into boiling soup. Don't peek for 7 or 8 minutes. Dumplings are done when they come to the top of liquid.

And, last, but not least, here is a receipe that was used in nearly every household, and was brought from Germany in 1865. Of course, there are variations, but this one is highly recommended. This yields about two quarts, but they tell us most families made it in five gallon batches.

SWAT-SAUER

When butchering arrange to catch the blood from a hog. But, first, pour a half cup vinegar in the kettle and stir blood in slowly as it drops into the container.

Put in a kettle three pounds of lean pork cut in two inch squares. Make a pickling solution of two cups vinegar, one cup water or enough of this solution to cover the meat. Let come to a boil. Remove scum. Add 2 teaspoons salt, one half cup sugar, eight (8) kernels whole black pepper, eight (8) kernels whole allspice and one bay leaf. Let boil slowly until meat is done. Then add blood very slowly one half cup at a time until thickened. About two cups of blood will be required. Boil ten minutes. Store in fruit jars in a cool place. When desired for use heat slowly and serve with dumplings and potatoes boiled in their jackets.

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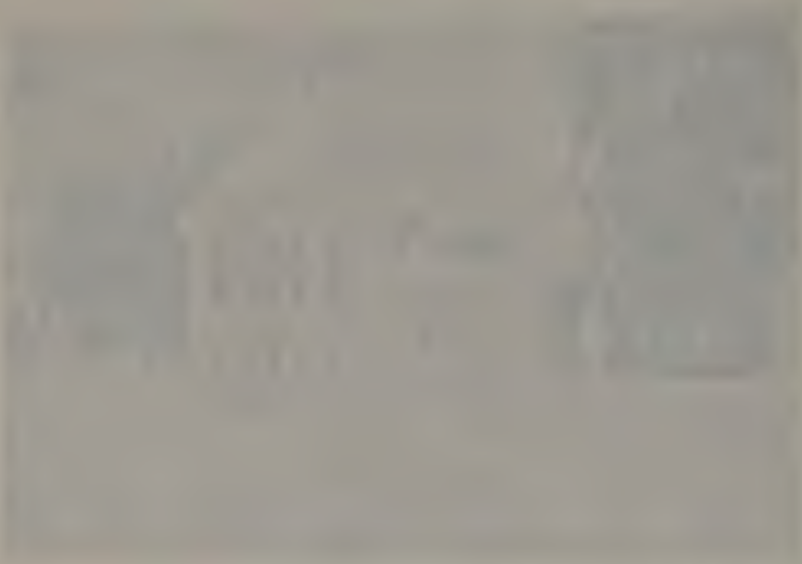

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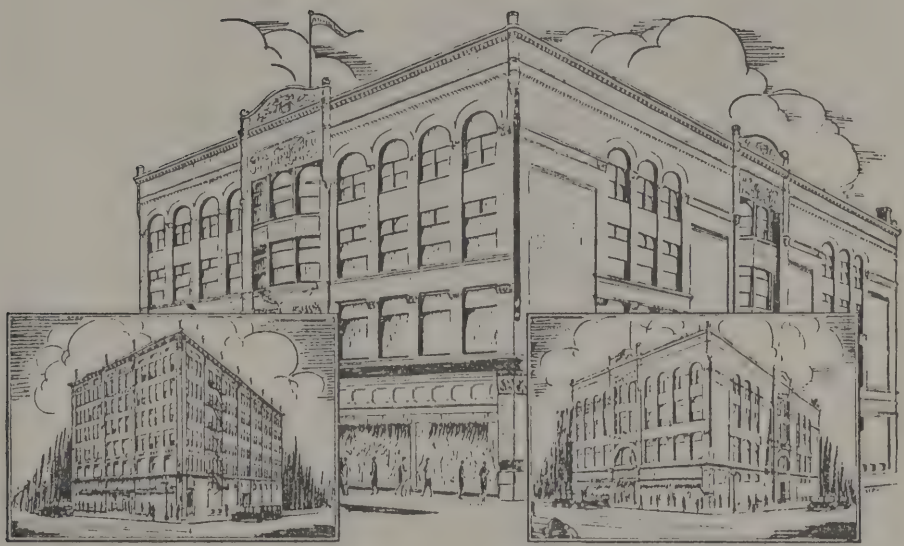
1954 Celebrates Petersen's 82nd Anniversary



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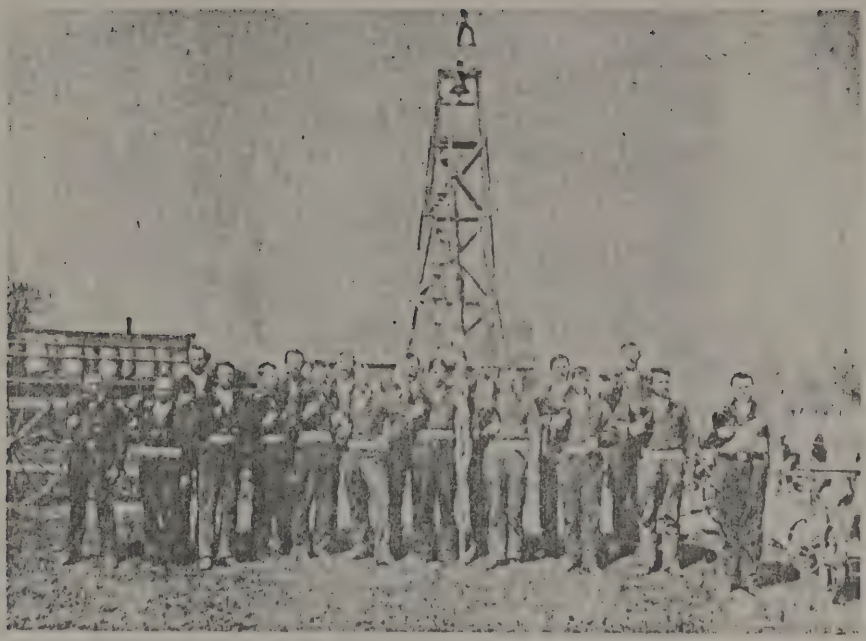

DURANT FIRE COMPANY, ORGANIZED APRIL 5, 1880

JOHN HORST, President; MARTIN BEUTHIEN, Secretary-Treasurer; PETER STOLTENBERG, Fireman, CHRIS SORGENFREY, First Assistant; CLAUS BOLDT, Second Assistant.

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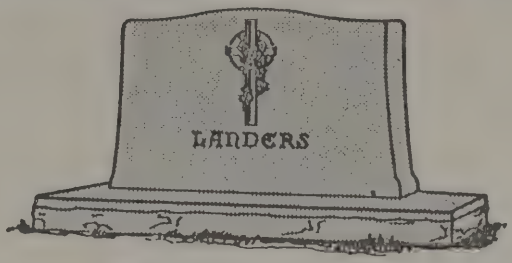
HENRY HEMPEL
WM. WULF
FRANK VOSS
LEONARD PETERSEN
PETE STOLTENBERG
JOHN KOELL
JOHN HORST
MILTON HEINLY

MARTIN BEUTHIEN
PAUL REISSEN
JOHN VOSS
CLAUS BOLDT
JAKE BRAUCH
JOHN ROHLFS
ALBERT SMITH
JIM DIEHN
JOHN DIETZ

"IT EXPRESSES SO WELL OUR LIFE TOGETHER"



There comes a time in the life of each of us when it becomes difficult to make decisions — alone. Such decisions as which monument you and your departed loved one would have chosen, could you have chosen it *together.*

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Second Row: August Belter, Thomas Wulf, Henry Diedrich, ——— ——— ———
Carl Jipp, Hartwig, Diedrich, Chas. Bierkamp, Thomas Jacobsen, Chas. Steffen.
Third Row: John Feldhahn, Claus Lorenzsen, Adolph Otto, Julius Lage, John Bierkamp, Henry Guleck, Fritz Mumm.

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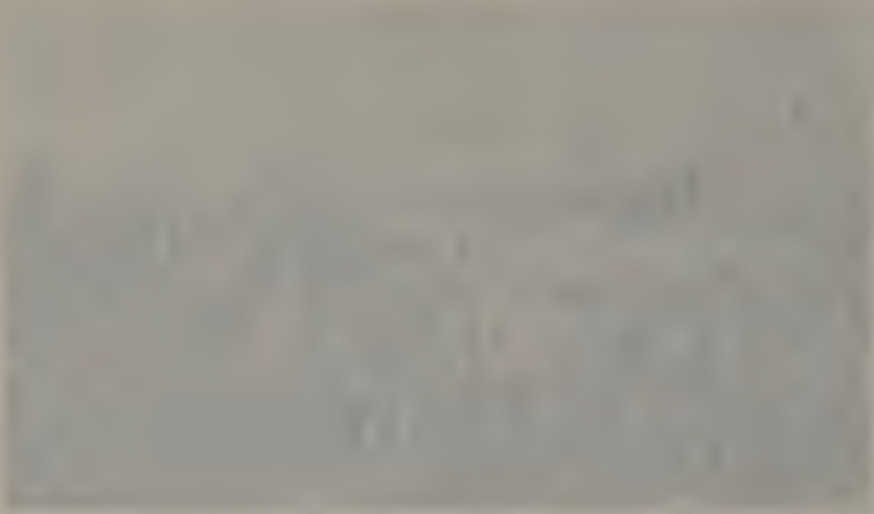
DURANT TURNER SOCIETY

Seated: Henry Diedrich, Nic Lamaach, Chas. Bierkamp, Ed Denkmann, John Wiebener, John Bierkamp, Jack Carstens, Nic Johansen.

Standing: Geo. Klahn, Jack Jacobs, Peter Lench, Hans Christensen, Ferd Stoltenberg, Henry Grummer, Chas. Steffen, Bill Banks, Marcus Bohstedt, Ferd Thiering, Henry Miller, Wm. Wulf, Chas. Diehn, John Guerink, Chris Sorgenfry.



1920

FIRST HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL TEAM

Back Row: Earl English, Thomas Jacobs, L. B. Ledgerwood, Albert Lilienthal.
Front Row: Ralph Nitz, Alvin Westphal, Arthur Langmann.

GIRLS' FIRST BASKETBALL TEAM

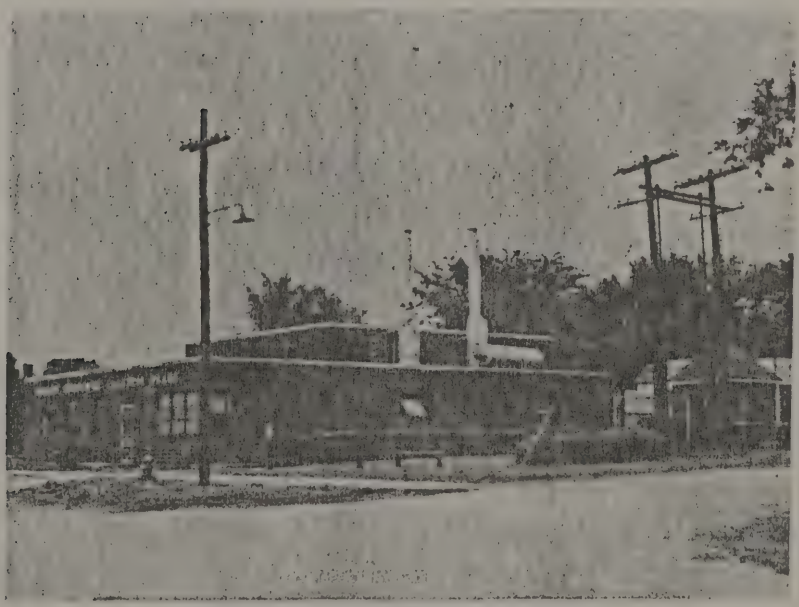
Top Row: Mrs. Conrad Schmitt-nee Olga Sorgenfrey, Miss Emma Ewoldt, Mrs. Henry Stutzer (Dala Wiebener).

Second Row: Mrs Theckla Klinck, Mrs. Saxon (Dora Fritson), Miss Lulu Jones, Mrs. Herman Voss (Olga Samberg), Miss Claudia Boldt.

Third Row: Mrs. Cliff Bills (Amanda Telsrow), Mrs. Hugo Stahl, (Tillie, Telsrow), Mrs. O. Fiis (Laura Stoterau), Mrs. Albert Ohlsen, (Tillie Bockwoldt).

Front: Miss Marie Fick, Mrs. John Vaughn (Anna Sorgenfrey).

THE MARX HARTZ FAMILY



DURANT MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC PLANT

THE DURANT SCHOOL BAND IN THEIR UNIFORMS PURCHASED THROUGH
The efforts of the Band Mothers' Club. They have also purchased a number of band instruments. Mrs. Ann Winters is President for 1954-55.

THE JAMES C. WALTON'S GOLDEN WEDDING IN 1908
Decendents of Col. David W. Walton, First White Settler in Cedar County

THE WOMANLESS WEDDING PRESENTED IN DURANT IN 1940

The Barn on the James C. Walton Farm Purchased in 1850.
This Farm is Still in the Walton Family.

A Threshing scene on the John Mumm's Farm
now owned by Matthias Olderog.

1954 MODERN MAIDS DEMONSTRATE THE 1854 AUTOMATIC WASHER

The Saloon once owned by Leonard Petersen (Hilda Schlapkohl's Father).
Now Operated by Elmer Makoben — 5c Beer and Free Lunch

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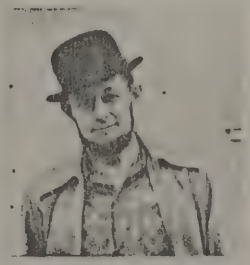
CLARENCE LAMP

ART TIMMSEN



WILSON RICHMAN

ALBERT GLASER

ROY W. LAMMERS

CECIL LANGMANN

HERBERT JOHANSEN

JAMES RIESSEN

VERNE MEYER

HENRY PLOEN

CARL SEMSCH

VICTOR SCHNECKLOTH

LEROY THEDE

PAUL FINCK

PETE ERICKSEN

WILLIS MILLER

WALT FEARGARD

HUBERT AHRENS

~~OTTO VOSS~~
ED FELDHAHN

GUS HERRING

RANDALL KUELPER

CHARLES STERNER

JULIUS LAGE

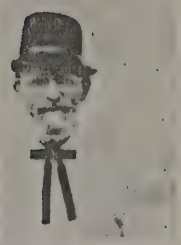
ALVIN LILIENTHAL

ROY MOELLER

LAMOINE SCHNECKLOTH

LEONARD LEESE

HUX MILLER



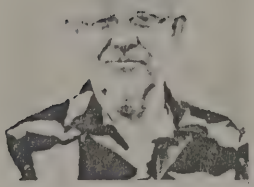
JAMES GRELL

HANS FURST

"FREE" BROCKMAN

BILLY D. PAULSEN

KENNETH KORTHAUS



ALBERT MUMM

CARL MUHS

WALDO SNECKLOTH

HUGO HAMANN

DARLENE AND DEANNA SCHNECKLOTH

MRS. AND MRS. "SHORTY" SCHUKAR

Back Row: Mrs. Mary Petersen, Mrs. Emma Hamann, Mrs. Louise Moeller.
Front Row: E. F. Jockheck, Jr., E. F. Jockheck, Sr., Mrs. Jockheck, Sr., John Jockheck

Top Row: Allen Lilienthal, Albert Lilienthal, Alvin Lilienthal, Harry Lilienthal, Raymond Lilienthal, Arthur Lilienthal, Lawrence Lilienthal.
Bottom Row: Mrs. Elmer Otto, Henry Lilienthal, Mrs. Alice Sievers, Mrs. Henry Lilienthal, Mrs. Estella Ploen.

NELSON FAMILY
Standing: Marcus B. Nelson, Ashton T. Nelson, Merrill E. Nelson, Bella A. Nelson, Ace B. Nelson, Henry P. Nelson, Otis W. Nelson.
Seated: Mrs. Eleanor Nelson, Thomas B. Nelson.

OTTO FAMILY
Bernhard, Adolph, Albert, William, Louis Otto
Mrs. Otto, Tillie Boldt, Mr. Otto.

Back Row: Fritz Glaser, Ferdinand Glaser, Peter Glaser, Henry Glaser, Mrs. Gus Thiessen, Mrs. Henry Wegener.
Front Row: Mrs. Theo. Makoben, Mrs. Pete Bierman, Jens Glaser, Peter Glaser (father), Mrs. Herman Makoben, Mrs. Wm. Hamann, Mrs. Peter Glaser (mother), Mrs. John Holling.
Front: Mrs. Harry Miller.

MRS. O. W. SCHIELE

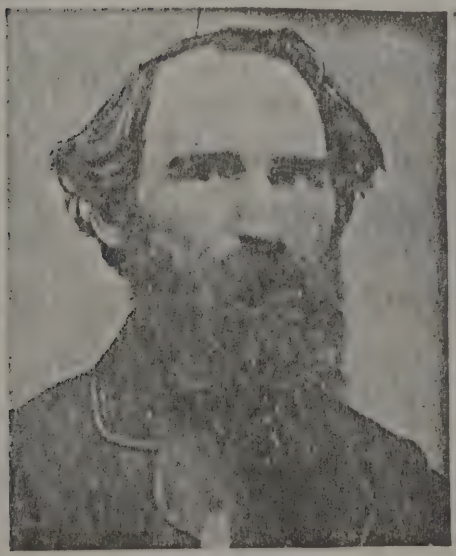
MR. O. W. SCHIELE

MR. AND MRS. ADOLPH BERNICK, MARRIED 1887

TILLIE BROWN GILLESPIE

ROXY PINGREY PRESCOTT

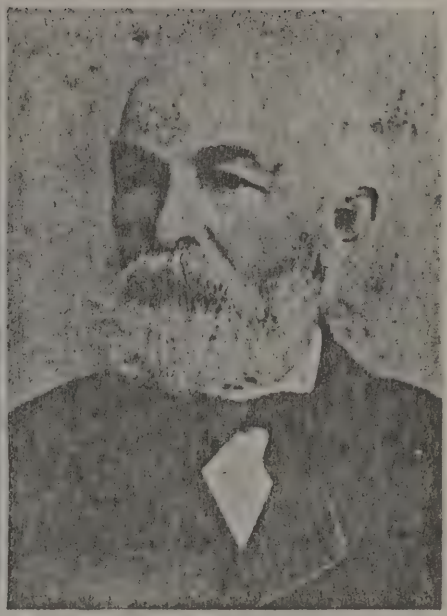
MRS. AND MRS. WM. GOETTSCH. MARRIED IN 1887



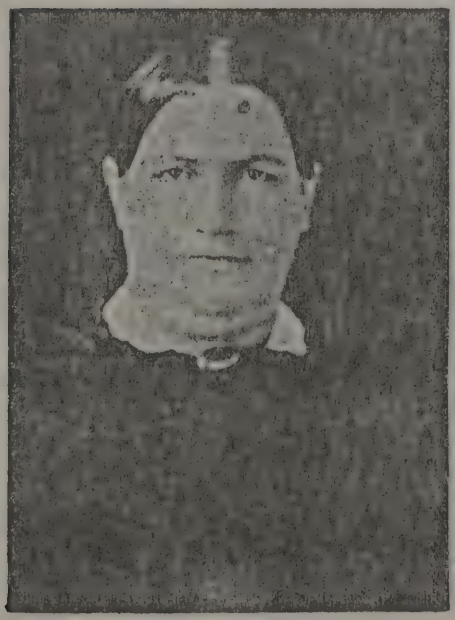
DR. BILLS
(First Doctor in Durant)

ALLEN NESBITT, First Mayor

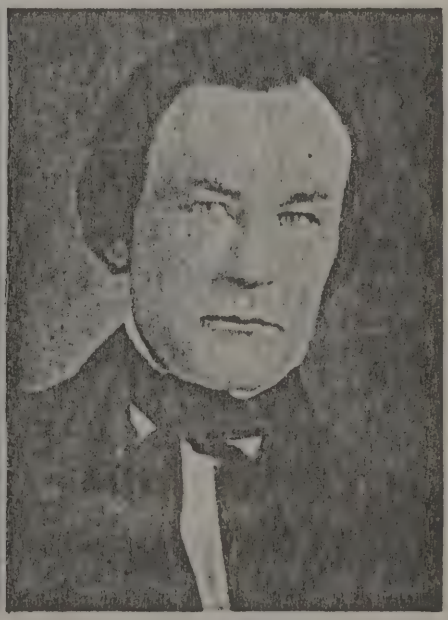
MRS. JOSEPH WEAVER



JOSEPH WEAVER



ELEANOR BROWN



MATTHEW BROWN

SAMUEL DUTTON
Superintendent of Union Sunday School for many years

DR. V. W. BYRNES, M.D.
Came to Durant in 1897. Practiced Medicine here for 45 years. Died 1944.

COL. VICTOR A BRYNES, Deputy Surgeon of the U. S. Air Force in Europe and Ophthalmological consultant to that theatre. Graduated from Durant High in 1925. Graduated from University of Iowa in 1931.

Top Row: Adeline Baumann, Martha Denkmann, Bernice Dusenberry, Viola Bauer, Elsie Muhs, Alice Hamann, Mate Bierkamp, Bertha Bockwoldt.
Bottom Row: Louese Frick, Marvella Wiese, Florence Christiansen, Bernice Klahn, Virginia Miller, Fredericka Paustian, Helen Petersen.

Program of Durant's Pageant

SATURDAY, JULY 31, 1954

Daylight Time

Parade—Starts at East Side Park, South to Hiway No. 6 then West ..... 1:00 p.m.

Horse Show—Thess Lots, West of Park ..... 3:00 p.m.

FREE ENTERTAINMENT— West Park (one hour) ..... 4:00 p.m.

Cattle Show and Judging—School Grounds ..... 4:30 p.m.

EVENING

FREE ENTERTAINMENT—West Park (one hour) ..... 7:30 p.m. (The Lancasters and their dogs). (The McNallie Sisters—Three Slick Chicks from the Sticks). (Radio Barn Dance Comedy Impersonator). Marvel with her accordion.

Pageant and Crowning of Centennial Queen, High School Athletic Field ..... 8:30 p.m.

FREE DANCING—West Park, new dance floor, immediately following Pageant. Music by Bavarian Band.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 1, 1954

FREE ENTERTAINMENT—West Park, new dance floor. Same cast as Saturday evening ..... 3:00 p.m.

Whisker Club Parade and Judging. (This will afford many laughs) ..... 4:00 p.m.

EVENING

FREE ENTERTAINMENT—West Park (one hour). Same cast as 3 p.m. ..... 7:30 p.m.

Pageant—High School Athletic Field ..... 8:30 p.m.

FREE DANCING—West Park, new dance floor, immediately following Pageant. In case of rain on Saturday, Parade will be held on Sunday.

Stars Over Durant

A Pageant on the history and folklore of Durant, Iowa;
Presented during the Durant Centennial on the
Evenings July 31st and August 1st, 1954

Episode One ..... Introduction, Parade of Peoples

Episode Two ..... Indians, Friend or Foe?

Episode Three ..... Life on the Frontier with the Waltons

Episode Four ..... It's Agin' the Law Now!

Episode Five ..... The Call to Worship

Episode Six ..... Time for a Spelling Bee!

Episode Seven ..... The Kickapoo Indian Medicine Company

Episode Eight ..... The Fight for Liberty

Episode Nine ..... The Turners Twist and Turn

Episode Ten ..... The Bird Shoot or Fun For All!

Episode Eleven ..... Do You Remember?

Episode Twelve ..... Leave It Up To The Women!

Episode Thirteen ..... A Century of Beauty

Episode Fourteen ..... Coronation of the Durant Centennial Queen

Episode Fifteen ..... Finale, A Tribute to Youth

Written and directed by Rod D. Vahl.

Sponsored by the Durant Woman's Club, Mrs. Harlan Finck, Chairman.

Narrated by Mrs. F. E. Fair and Mr. Oliver Hansen.

Musical Director, Mr. Ronald Rogers.

Musical Groups, Durant High School Music Department.

Property Committee, Herb Johansen, Chairman.

Individual Episode sponsors: Royal Neighbors of America, The Pythian Sisters, The American Legion and Auxiliary, The Ladies' Guild of the Episcopal Church, Cleona No. 4 School, Durant Grade and High Schools, The Northwest Turners Society of Davenport, and many individuals.

Durant Centennial Committee

The Durant Centennial Committee was organized in the summer of 1953 for the purpose of promoting the one hundredth anniversary of the town. A gala two day celebration is being planned for July 31st and August 1st. A feature of the festivities will be the parade to be held at noon (DST) on Saturday, July 31st. Each evening the Centennial Pageant "Stars Over Durant" will be presented depicting some of the more colorful events of Durant's history. The entire two days will be filled with entertainment for both young and old.

Raymond H. Christensen is the General Chairman, assisted by Carl F. Miller, Co-chairman and Mrs. Albert J. Mumm, Secretary-Treasurer. Other Centennial Committee Chairmen are as follows:

Finance, Henry Hansen; Advertising, Huxley A. Miller; Entertainment, Alfred H. Hiesterman; Parade, Waldo Schneckloth; Concession, Wilson Richmann; Band, Ronald Rogers; Promotion, A. F. Schukar; Property, Herbert O. Johansen; Historical, Mrs. Otis M. Ellis; Pageant, Mrs. Harlan H. Finck; Ruffle and Duster Club, Mrs. Huxley A. Miller; Decorating, Mrs. Alice Schiele; Hospitality, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur F. Schiele and Centennial Queens, Cecil W. Langmann.

77 02661 85